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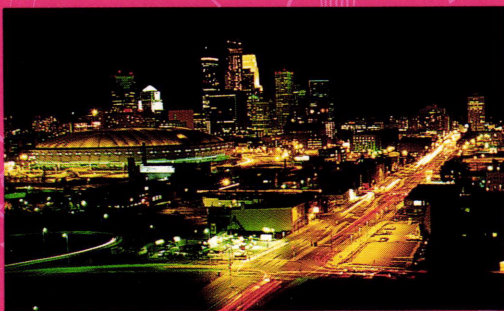
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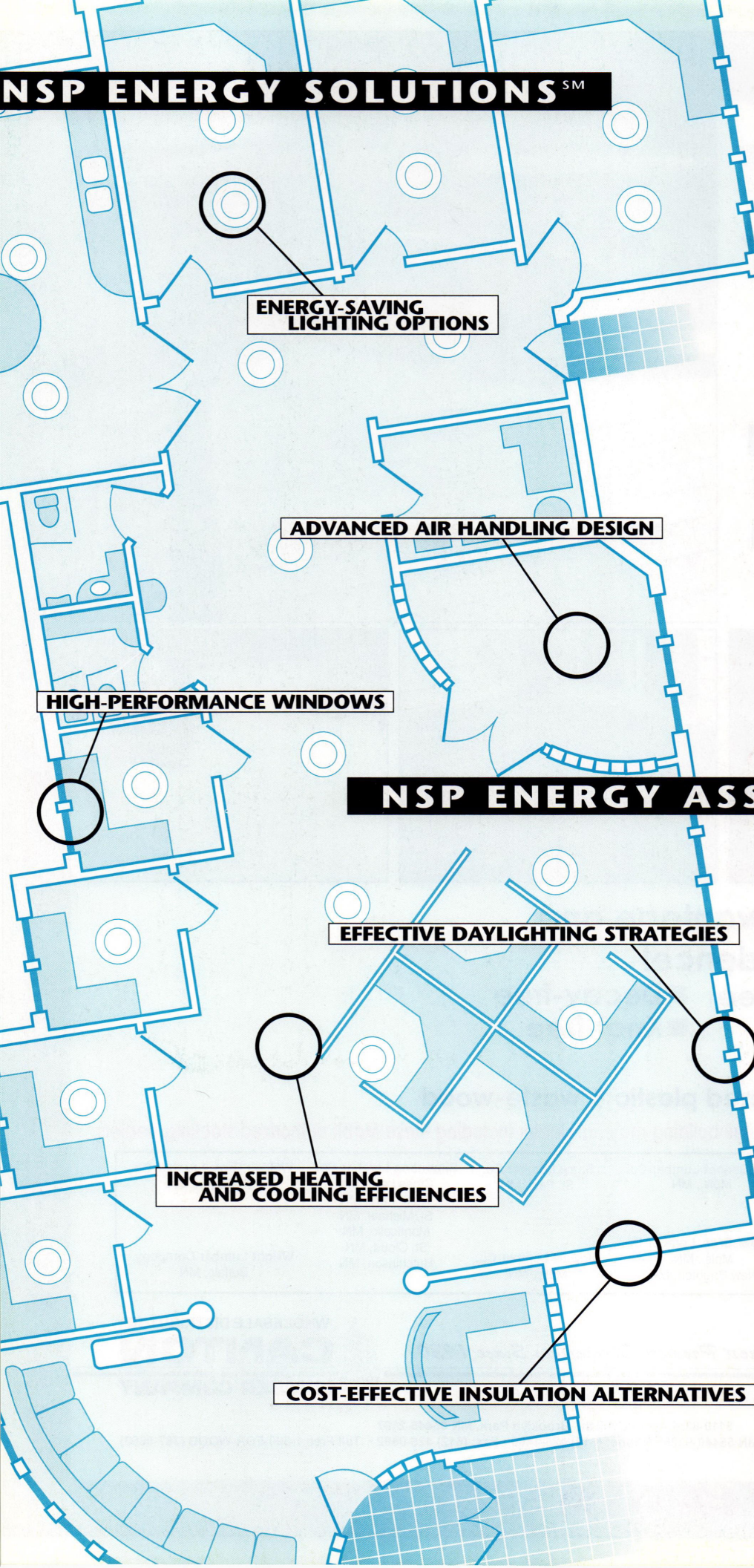
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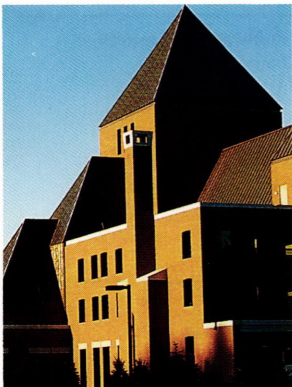
VOL. 21 NO. 2

THE MAGAZINE OF AIA MINNESOTA

MARCH/APRIL 1995



28. Border crossing



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Cover:
Opperman Hall and
Law Library Addition.

Architect: The Leonard Parker
Associates, Architects Inc.

Photographer: Assassi Productions.

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Architecture Minnesota is published bimonthly by AIA Minnesota. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Board of Directors or the editorial staff of *Architecture Minnesota*. Editorial offices: International Market Square, 275 Market Street, Suite 54, Minneapolis, MN 55405. (612) 338-6763. FAX: (612) 338-7981. Note to subscribers: When changing address, please send address label from recent issue and your new address. Allow six weeks for change of address. Subscription rate: \$18 for one year, \$3.50 for single issue. Postmaster: Send address change to *Architecture Minnesota*, International Market Square, 275 Market Street, Suite 54, Minneapolis, MN 55405. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, MN, and additional mailing offices. Advertising and Circulation: *Architecture Minnesota*, International Market Square, 275 Market Street, Suite 54, Minneapolis, MN 55405. (612) 338-6763. Printed by St. Croix Press, Inc. Color separations by Spectrum, Inc. Copyright 1995 by *Architecture Minnesota* (ISSN 0149-9106).



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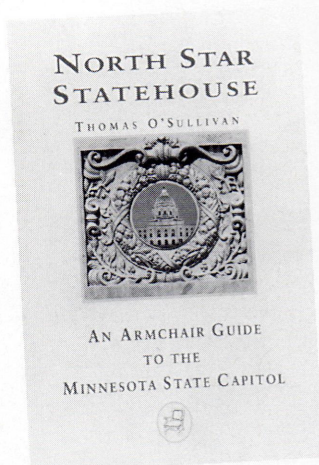
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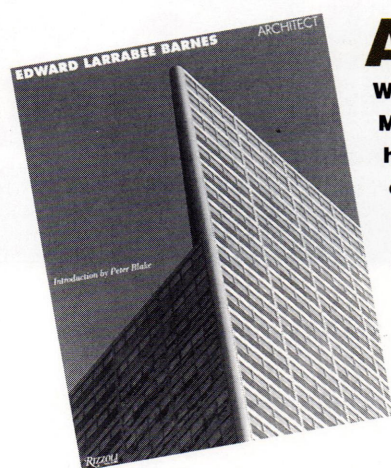
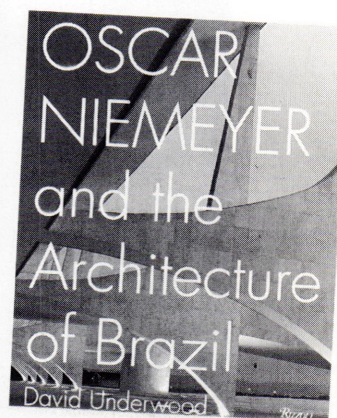
Hot off the presses



The Minnesota State Capitol, designed by acclaimed architect Cass Gilbert, is one of the state's most famous and revered buildings. In *North Star Statehouse: An Armchair Guide to the Minnesota State Capitol*, author Thomas O'Sullivan recounts the building's history and art in the first new guide published since 1907. A special insert of glossy four-color photos brings into sharp focus the building's rich detailing and grand spaces. Geared toward visitors, State employees and those interested in art and architecture, *North Star Statehouse* is published by Pogo Press, St. Paul, Minn. Thomas O'Sullivan is curator of art at the Minnesota Historical Society.

Oscar Niemeyer and the *Architecture of Brazil*, by David Underwood, illustrates in gleaming four-color photography the work of one of South America's most influential architects. Niemeyer, now 86, burst onto the architecture scene at the beginning of the modernist era.

Le Corbusier, visiting Brazil in 1936, became one of Niemeyer's strongest influences. Niemeyer's distinctive modernist style combines the curving organic forms characteristic of Brazilian architecture with the clean lines of the International Style. *Oscar Niemeyer* is published by Rizzoli International Publications, New York. David Underwood is an assistant professor of art history at Rutgers University and a contributing editor of *Latin American Art* magazine.



Architect Edward Larrabee Barnes, one of America's masters of modernism, is well represented in Minnesota, as seen in the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis Sculpture Garden and a private house in suburban Minneapolis. *Edward Larrabee Barnes: Architect*, introduced by Peter Blake, highlights a full range of Barnes's work and his architectural approach to geometry, composition and siting. Barnes, who set up practice in New York in 1949 after studying under Marcel Breuer and Walter Gropius at Harvard, provides personal comment of each featured project. Both color and black-and-white photos show the texture and variety of his projects. *Edward Larrabee Barnes* is published by Rizzoli International Publications, New York. Peter Blake, an architect and critic, also published *The Master Builders: Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, and Frank Lloyd Wright*.

Details, details

Little touches often make or break a project. AIA Minnesota's Divine Detail award recognizes the significance of the small brush stroke. For the French Regional Park Program Building, Kodet Architectural Group of Minneapolis designed light fixtures that reflect the building's Prairie-style character and enhance the architecture's scale.



George Heintich

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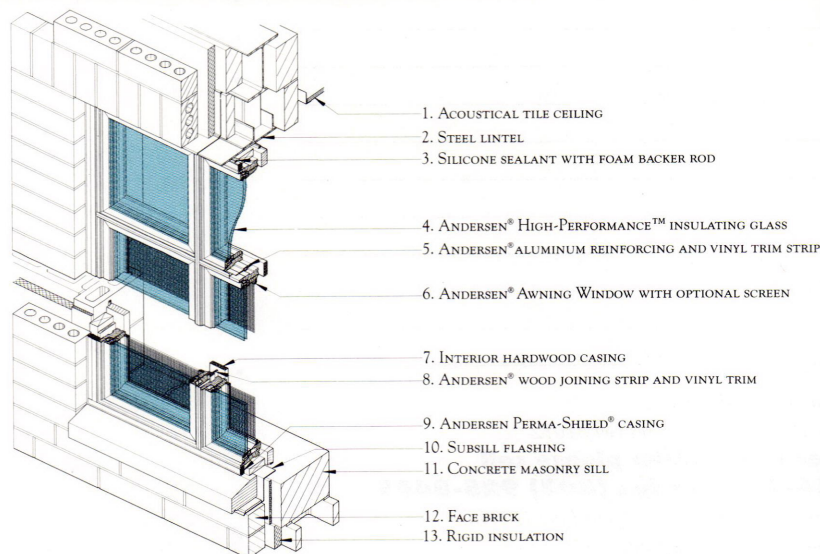
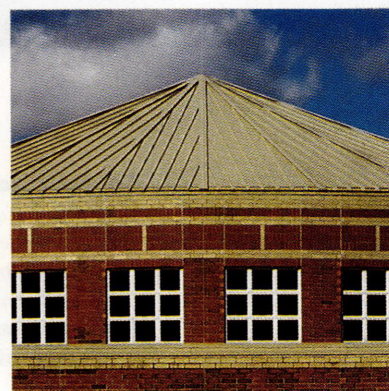
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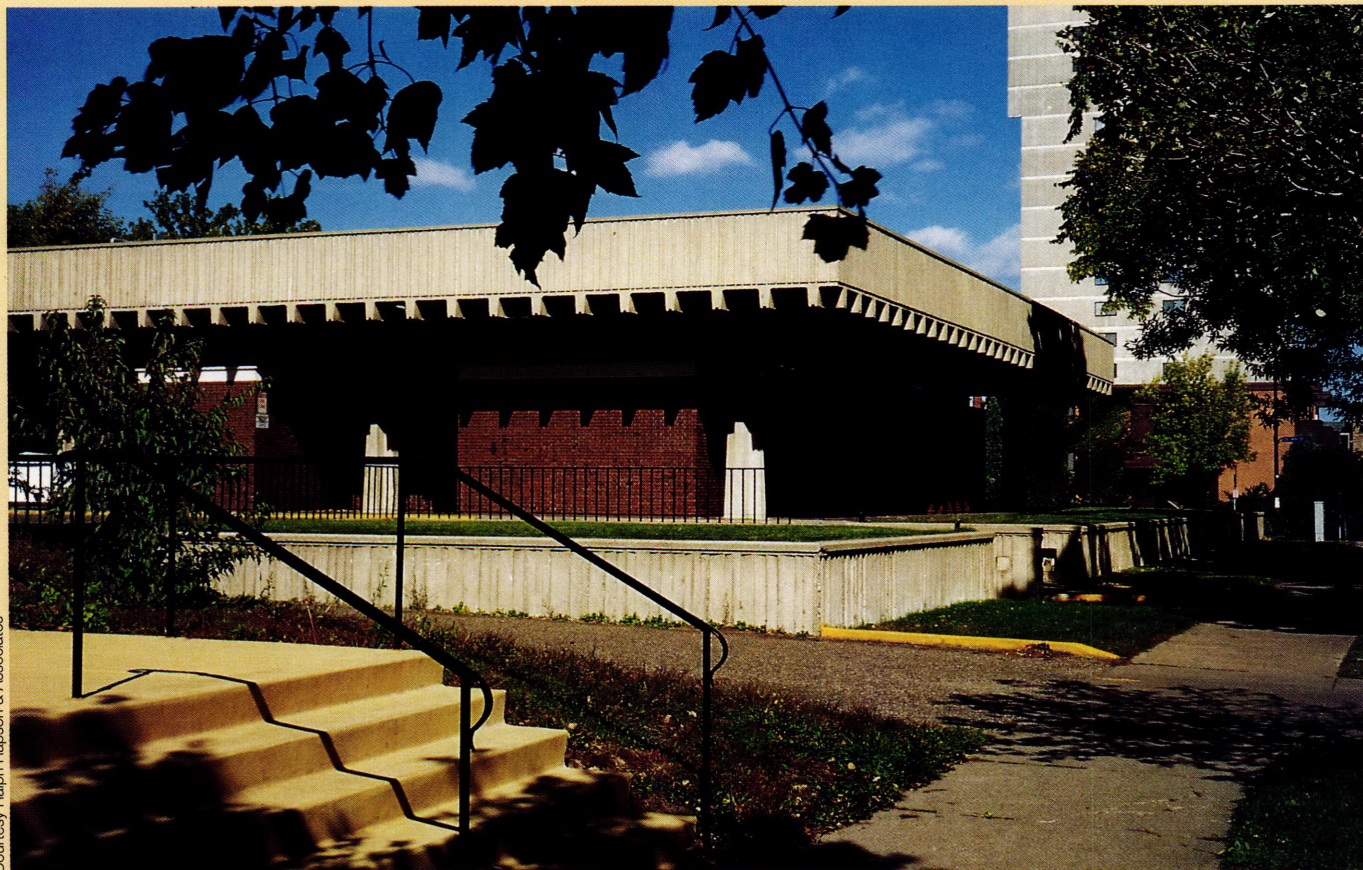
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Courtesy Ralph Rapson & Associates

Thriving at 25



In the modernist tradition, concrete and brick highlight both interior and exterior of Ralph Rapson's award-winning building.

The Minneapolis Southeast Branch Public Library, designed by Ralph Rapson & Associates in 1963 and now winner of a 25-Year Award, is a prime example of successful adaptive reuse.

Located near Dinkytown by the University of Minnesota's East Bank campus, the 187,000-square-foot building was originally designed as a credit union. When the credit union relocated in 1970, the public library bought the property and hired Rapson to modify the structure. The flexible floor plan, in fact, required little change. Sixteen free-standing, cross-shaped concrete columns support a concrete waffle-slab roof. This open plan allowed the main office space to convert to reading and study areas, control and open stacks. The public lounge became the periodical and browsing areas, while the loan offices became the children's section, and staff and work areas. The basement, with meeting room, kitchen and storage, remained untouched and still is used by the community for various functions.

The jurors, consisting of Ian R. Stewart of the Minnesota Historical Society, Basil Filonowich of Setter, Leach & Lindstrom, and F. John Barbour of Barbour/Ladouceur Architects, praised the building for symbolizing 1960s architecture with its well-detailed exposed concrete massing that has a classical formality and strong sense of scale.

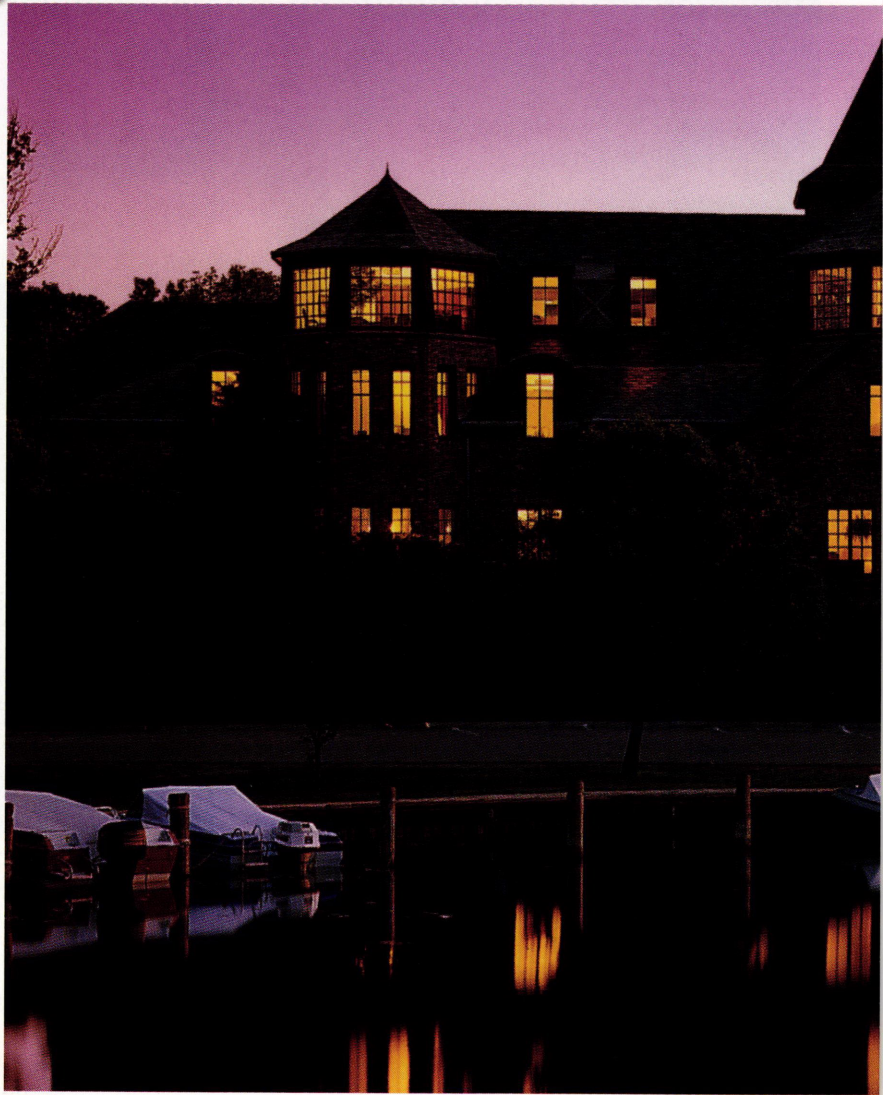
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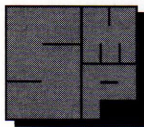


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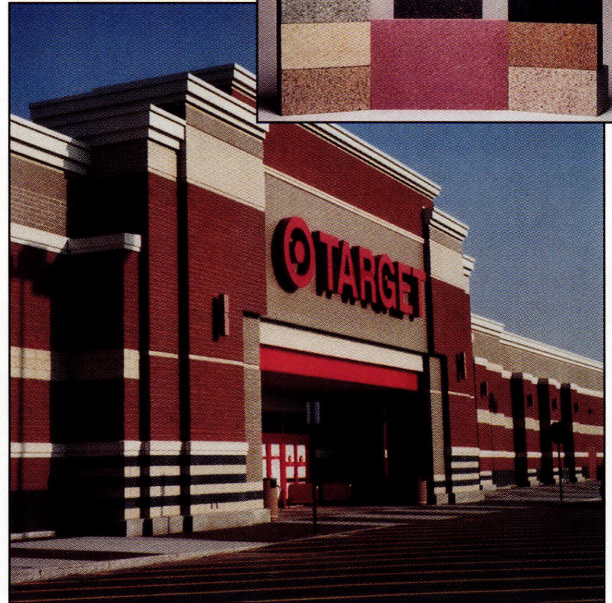
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**Duchamp's Leg
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Marcel Duchamp is regarded as one of the most influential forces in contemporary art. This exhibit looks at Duchamp's legacy in art produced from the 1950s to the present. Featured artists include Joseph Cornell, Robert Gober, Jasper Johns, Sherrie Levine, Glenn Ligon, Nam June Paik, Robert Rauschenberg, Rosemarie Trockel, Andy Warhol and Millie Wilson. Duchamp's own pieces are drawn primarily from the Walker's private collection.

For more information, call WAC at (612) 375-7622.

**Bystander: A History of
Street Photography
The Art Institute of Chicago
Through March 12**

Taken from the Institute's permanent collection, this exhibit surveys images of everyday street life since the beginning of street photography. Four key photographers are highlighted: Eugene Atget, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Walker Evans, and Robert Frank. A newly published book accompanies the exhibit.

For more information, call the Institute at (312) 443-3600.

**Joel Meyerowitz on the Street:
The First Decade
The Art Institute of Chicago
Through March 19**

Known today for his view-camera landscape photography, Meyerowitz began his career as a street photographer in his native New York. While many of his contemporaries shot strictly in black and white, Meyerowitz shot in color. From 1962 until 1972, many of his color photos were shot during his travels through Europe and America. This exhibit draws primarily from his earlier and lesser-known works.

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**The Entirely Approachable Art Auction
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Live music and plenty of food and fun will highlight this fund-raiser for the Department of Art's Nash Gallery. The wide range of artwork will include samples from the likes of such nationally and internationally acclaimed artists as Mark Di Suvero, Robert Stackhouse, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Jim Melchert, Alice Aycock, Kinji Akagawa, Siah Armajani, Joann Verberg, Doug Argue, Steve Sorman and Steve Hartman. Represented artists include alumni and friends as well as such Department of Art faculty members as Thomas Rose, Curtis Hoard, Clarence Morgan, Mark Pharis and professor emeritus Warren MacKenzie.

The Nash Gallery, which displays faculty and student work as well as works by regional, national and international artists, is managed by U of M students, providing an insider's perspective on how galleries function. The auction wishes to raise \$400,000 to fund an endowment for the gallery.

For more information, call Evonne or Sarah at (612) 625-8096.



Ceramic "Short Lamp," by James Shrosbree

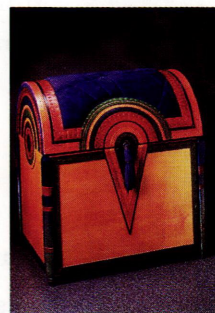
**Clay and Iron:
New works by James Shrosbree
and David Dick
Carolyn Ruff Gallery
Through April 1**

Artists David Dick and James Shrosbree explore the hollow form as a metaphor for life, inner energy contained by an active shell. Exploring a modernist aesthetic, both artists construct organic forms often resembling ancient unearthed artifacts. For more information, call (612) 338-8052.

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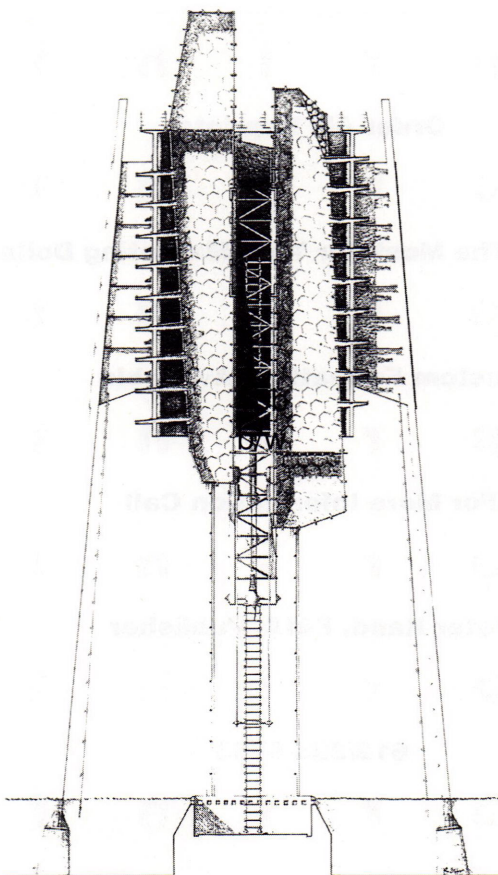
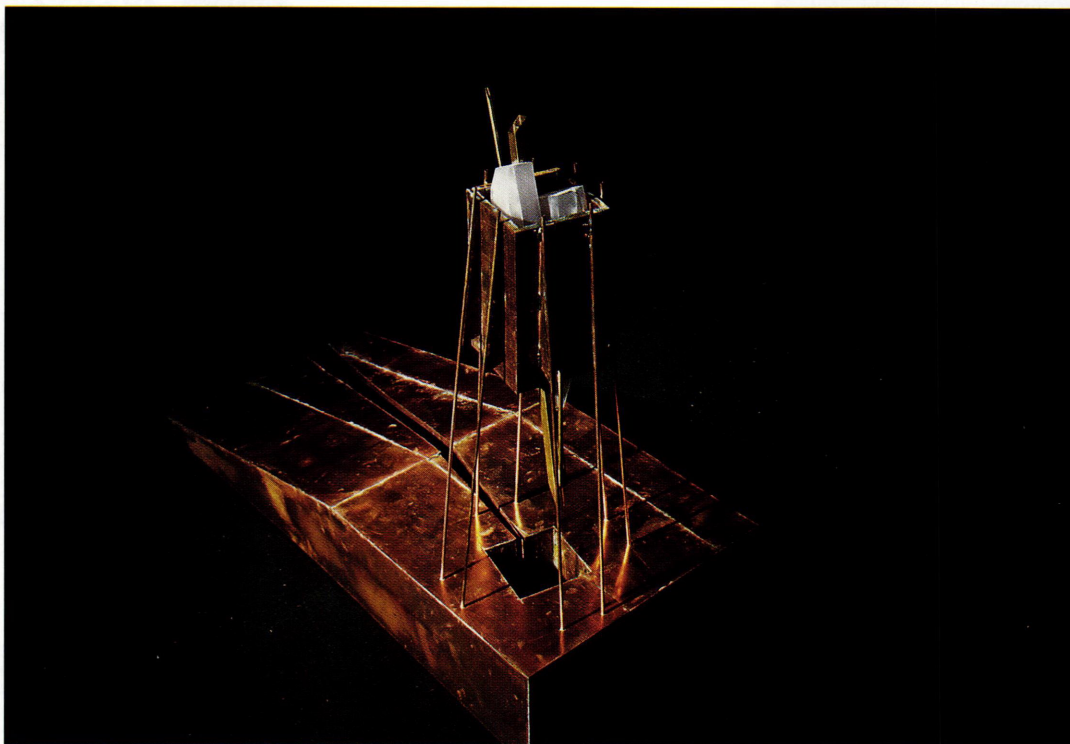
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Project: *Provisional House for Travelers*

Designers: *Ali Heshmati, Michael Roehr, Jennifer Yoos*

Elevated above a canal, this glass house is protectively wrapped by steel walls. The living space consists of two glass chambers suspended within a steel structure. The upper chamber is passive, to be occupied at night as it uses the light of the moon and stars. The lower chamber is active, as it is occupied by day, using sunlight reflected from the water below. The floors are steel screens that allow light to pass through, thus connecting the occupant with the ground and sky. Utilizing the qualities of glass (i.e. transparency, fragility, reflection) this project explores our contemporary concerns about privacy, temporary living arrangements and protection.

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up close

By Rick Nelson

Few contemporary figures have had the impact on the urban fabric of the Twin Cities as the indefatigable Barbara Flanagan.

Her thrice-weekly column in the Minneapolis *Star* and later the *Star Tribune* galvanized two generations of Twin Citians to cherish their architectural heritage and demand a more urbane and humane built environment.

By the time she retired in 1988, Flanagan was the grand doyenne of Minnesota newspapers and a Twin Cities institution whose influence stretched across the area's cultural and architectural landscape.

Her columnist career, which spanned 23 outspoken years, began in September 1965 when she was a 16-year reporter and features *Star* veteran. She and sports writer Jim Klobuchar were invited to replace the legendary Cedric Adams, who was retiring after a 35-year stint as a daily columnist. The duo was dubbed "The Minneapolis Stars." After her debut week, in which she profiled the inventor of the topless swim suit and introduced her readers to the then-experimental process of hair transplants, she struck up a nervous conversation with her editor. What would she cover the following week?

"While Klobuchar was great at writing hilarious essays on things, I was more inclined to look for causes," she recalls. "So my editor said to me, 'what have you noticed lately, what's on your mind?' And I said, 'Well, Hennepin Avenue looks terrible, it really needs work.' And he said, 'why don't you write that?'"

A newspaper beat was born. "I got Bob Cerny, the prominent local architect behind the Gateway redevelopment, to take a tour of Hennepin with me," she says. "He was really funny, he

didn't care what he said. We rode down the avenue, and he said, 'I think we should just blast the whole thing down and start over.' I printed it, and people were up in arms, they were outraged. And of course," she says with a laugh, "I had to tell them that, 'I never said that, he said that.'"

She was still nagging readers about Hennepin Avenue in her final columns in October 1988, and has continued to crusade for the street in her popular monthly "Flanagan File" that she began writing, post-retirement, in January 1989. But that first column featuring Cerny really started it all.

"Other architects came forward after that one," she recalls. "In those days, no one ever wrote about them, and nobody ever wrote about their plans. People today say that the only thing I'm well-known for is getting in sidewalk cafes, but if nothing else, I introduced the work of architects to the newspaper's readers."

And she was literally starting from scratch. "I got into that mode of writing about the changing city and the urban-design scene without knowing a thing about it, and I did it by interviewing various and asunder people who purportedly did know."

One of those people was Hubert Humphrey, the city's former mayor and one of its biggest boosters.

"Hubert Humphrey cared deeply about this city," she says. "For example, he wanted to open up the river front for everyone. And he hated the federal courthouse that came about as a result of the lower-loop redevelopment. He kept making speeches that government buildings should be the best of the best of the best."

Good architecture and talented architects always held a prominent place in her column, and she developed a long

Continued on page 48



Don F. Wong

Barbara Flanagan

BARBARA FLANAGAN

**With a discerning
eye cast on
Minneapolis's urban
landscape, this
veteran newspaper
columnist has
proven one of the
city's most
outspoken critics
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TOWARD A PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS

The following is an excerpt
from *Design plus Enterprise*:

Seeking a New Reality in
Architecture, published by
AIA Press, Washington, D.C.

By James P. Cramer

Enhancing the Reputation of the Design Professions

Not too long ago, Mexican architect Ricardo Legorreta challenged an audience of architects to consider the recent track record of America's engineers and doctors. Legorreta noted that in this century, engineers have extensive road systems and bridges to their credit; as for the medical profession, the extraordinary ad-

vances of medicine have added years to our lives. Compare this, he went on, to the impact of this country's architects on the daily lives of most Americans.

Legorreta wasn't saying that today's architects lack the talent to design good, if not great architecture. From his perspective the issue is *who* or, more to the point, *how many* are served by this talent.

public going to be if, for example, its elected representatives are inclined (or not) to pursue the highest design standards for new public architecture? or a historic district? or put in place a regulatory climate that encourages excellence?

But that's just the beginning of the harm done when the constituency for good design is small.

*The wrong client calls
the tune*

When the design professions fall into the hands of a relative few who can afford their services, the motives of these few may be driven by profit alone or an "edifice complex" rather than services to the community. For every Jonas Salk who commissions a Louis Kahn to design a project that celebrates the site it enhances, there are far too many clients whose view of their investment hardly rises above a limited vision of their own short-term return on investment. The evidence for expediency or, on the other hand, conspicuous consumption is everywhere, from Main Street to the suburban shopping mall.

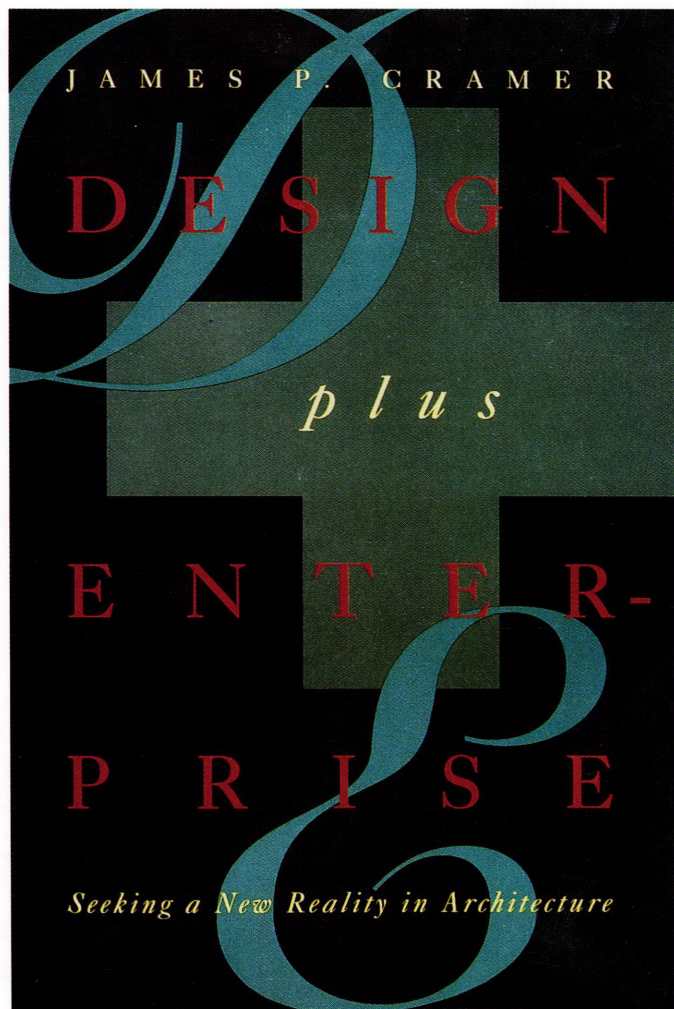
The lack of a community perspective goes some way to explain the tunnel vision of much postwar construction, a line of sight that does not

*Quality design is
not a luxury*

As Legorreta sees it, it's typically the wealthy individual or large developer, not the community, who has access to the best today's architects have to offer. If his observation is correct—and I haven't met an architect who believes the profession has more work than it can handle—it doesn't take much imagination to predict the consequences of serving a shrinking client base.

From the public's standpoint, design that makes the spirit soar, while admired, is reserved for the privileged; it's a luxury or expensive option, not a necessity. It touches the margins rather than the core of their lives.

Since the public seldom has been in the habit of commissioning the work of architects, does it really matter if the average citizen isn't standing in line for the profession's services? Perhaps it does. After all, how supportive is such a



Continued on page 54



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Each year we feature the AIA Minnesota Honor Award winners. This time around, 10 projects won 1994 awards. We review eight on the following pages. The other two, the St. Paul City Hall/Ramsey

Watchdogs

County Courthouse renovation was profiled September/October 1994, and the Hanson Retreat will be reviewed in the May/June 1995 issue. Judging the so-called

best is always tricky business. After all, any competition is subjective. Jurors come with their preconceived notions of good, bad and fair architecture.

As customary, AIA Minnesota chose jurors from different locales to ensure diverse opinions fueled by regional architectural influences. Robert J. Frasca of Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership comes from Portland, Ore., Robert Kleinschmidt of Powell/Kleinschmidt Inc. from Chicago, and Andrea P. Leers of Leers Weinzapfel Associates Architects, Inc. from Boston.

There are no guarantees of a project's longevity or lasting value. A great building's true worth may take years or generations to assess, while the glittery new kid on the block may become obsolete in a few years. The St. Paul Cathedral, completed in the early century, is still one of the Twin Cities' prized possessions. Yet who even misses the Ritz Hotel, built some 30 years ago and now a surface-parking lot in downtown Minneapolis?

Surveying the roster of current award-winning buildings is an opportunity to review our built environment and recognize valuable buildings—even those that never won Honor Awards. Architecture, the most public of all art forms, is constantly under siege by the cranes of urban renewal. Freeways forever have transformed our urban landscape. Cars rule where pedestrians once strolled. Buildings that survive often do so in altered states. An expatriate returning to the Twin Cities would hardly recognize the Guthrie Theater or Nicollet Mall today.

Our feature on the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (page 42) illustrates that the city's primary resources are the residents who care about how their neighborhoods look and function. Take time to survey your own neighborhood. Note the good, the bad, the ugly. Neighborhoods are a collection of different parts, and architecture is a big part.

Eric Kudalis

We can't assume that the buildings we admire will stand forever. Residents are the strongest voice for preservation. Architectural preservation in its purest form is a grass-roots effort. We must all become architectural watchdogs to build and retain stronger neighborhoods.



The Opperman Hall and Law Library Addition (above) at Drake University faces a newly created campus mall (opposite).

Law

review

By Eric Kudalis



Assassi Productions

The Opperman Hall and Law Library Addition, designed by The Leonard Parker Associates, Architects Inc. of Minneapolis for Drake University, projects a distinctive architectural identity for this Des Moines, Iowa, law school.

The original law building, a somewhat plain-faced modernist number by Edward Larrabee Barnes, is not necessarily among Barnes's best work. Yet The Leonard Parker Associates used the building's basic design palette as a reference point. The same red brick, for instance, sheathes the addition. And modernism's strong lines are found in the new wing, only those lines and forms contain an energy that was missing in the original building.

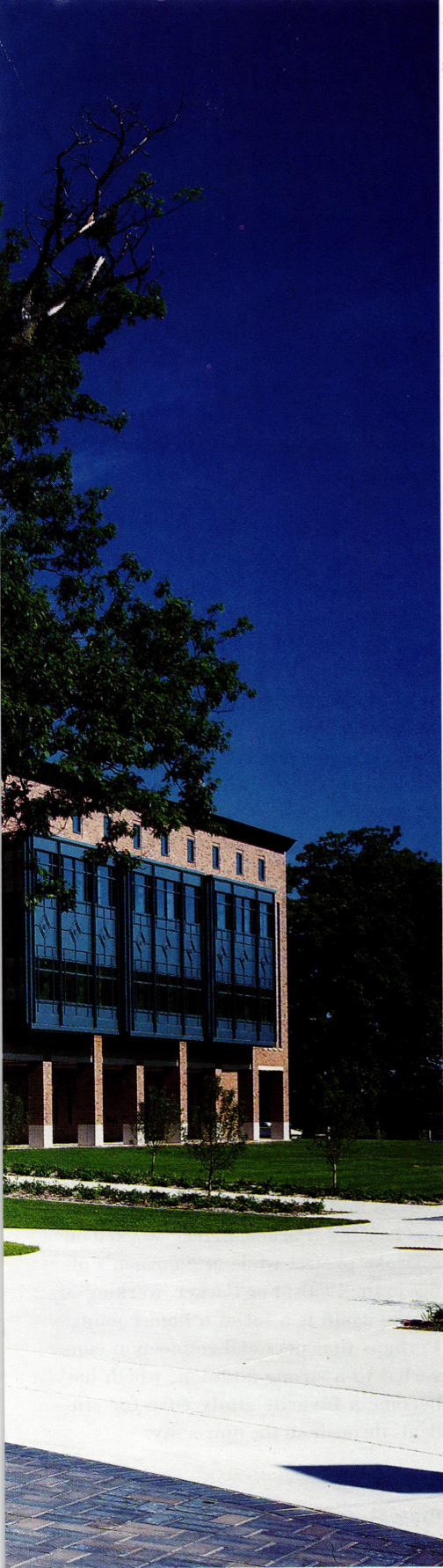
"The addition has a modern discipline that relates to Barnes's building," Leonard Parker says, "but we wanted animation beyond that. The new façade is more kinetic."

The architectural firm's mission was twofold. It needed to create a functional

space for the law-school library to shelf 225,000 volumes and provide 600 students with plenty of space for study and research. In addition, the architects needed to establish the groundwork for a public quadrangle to tie the campus's buildings together.

By facing the bulk of the building eastward toward a newly created mall, which was once bisected by 26th Street, the firm established a public edge that is further reinforced by the Harry Weese-designed Fine Arts building directly across. The firm's master plan calls for future buildings to fill in the gaps, cementing the quadrangle.

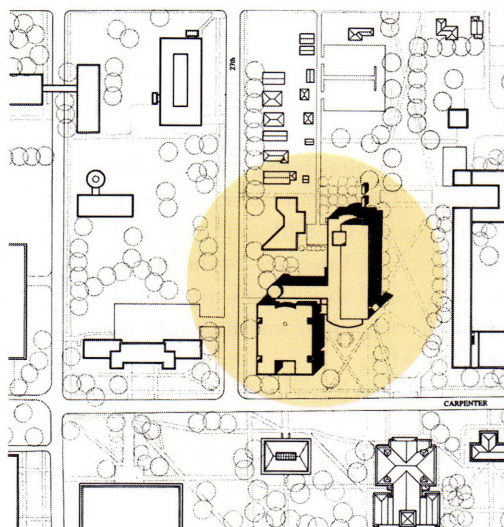
The east façade facing the new mall is the building's most expressive side. A series of brick columns marches along the first level. Forms are clean and simple, yet have a spark that steps aside from the hardness of modernism. Deep-set, vertical windows help reduce interior sun glare to study carrels, while a series of three tinted metal win-



Michael Ian Shopern Photography



High windows (above) open the reading area to campus views. A mezzanine (opposite) tucks under the arching bow-truss ceiling. An arm, forming an interior east-west street, seamlessly links the new building (site plan) to the original law school.



dow panels housing study rooms breaks the rhythmic symmetry. In other areas, the architects related the façade to existing campus buildings. The curving south face responds to the nearby neo-classical Carnegie Hall Library, and the sloping roof form helps reduce the building's scale.

While establishing an exterior pedestrian mall, the architects also secured an interior east-west street that seamlessly links the existing law school with the expansion space and library. Students can cut through the interior street en route to other campus locations without disturbing law-school functions.

The heart of the library is the second-level, 2-story reading room and stack area, an open space that visually and spatially unifies the library's functions. The arching bow-truss ceiling shelters the interior. A third-level mezzanine slips under the highest point of the arch, thus increasing the study area without increasing the building's bulk. Wood throughout adds a traditional look and warmth found in many older law libraries.

The Honor Awards jurors remained impressed with the building's attention to detail. "Well thought through and well planned," they said. "This is a building of great clarity and strength with a nice palette of materials and a clear edge to a public space."

The law-library addition is in good architectural company. Drake University traditionally supports strong architecture. Over the years the likes of Mies van der Rohe, Harry Weese, Eero Saarinen, Barnes and others have designed campus facilities. Parker, in fact, worked on a Drake project while at Saarinen's office in the 1950s. For Parker, working at Drake again is a bit of a homecoming. Perhaps that personal connection converted to a strong addition, which has become a favorite study cove for students throughout the university.

Project: Opperman Hall and Law Library Addition
Architect: The Leonard Parker Associates, Architects Inc.
Client: Drake University
Location: Des Moines, Iowa





Flying high



Courtesy Architectural Alliance

Airports have never been particularly pedestrian friendly. Dashing from the terminal to parking or ground-transportation pickup is a bit of a death-defying act.

Architectural Alliance cured that problem at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport by opening the right-of-way for pedestrians with two identical 7-story circulation towers and 175-foot skyways. The structures connect double parking ramps to the Lindbergh Terminal, thus creating a safe climate-controlled passageway for pedestrians. Each tower, which faces the other in front of the ramps, contains stairways, escalators and elevators connecting with the ramp levels, including the planned below-grade Ground Transportation Center.

Architectural Alliance strove for transparency and a touch of architectural drama. Made of glass and alu-

minum as an aesthetic extension of the main terminal, the structures offer pedestrians visual access to their surroundings, and glimpses of jets taking off or flying overhead. Exposed mechanical systems and structural supports reinforce the high-tech image of airports. The Honor Awards jurors, in citing the structures for surmounting the challenges of designing infrastructure, said "The structures work with the surrounding building yet become icons in themselves." **E.K.**

Project: Vertical Circulation

Towers and Skyways

Architect: Architectural Alliance

Client: Metropolitan Airports

Commission

Location: Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport



Gallop Studios

Two 175-foot sky bridges (top) connect double parking ramps with the airport terminal. Exposed structural supports and mechanical systems (above and opposite) add a high-tech look to the airport setting.



Border

When the General Services Administration decided to build a new border-crossing station in International Falls, Minn., it gave the architects strict directives: "The design of the facility is intended to be as functional as possible. Materials used in its construction must be selected for their ability to withstand the elements. The site should be as aesthetically appealing as possible." Architectural Resources took this directive and expanded upon it, creating a colorful station that stands apart from the industrial district surrounding it.

The 1½-acre site, restricted by no less than 11 utility easements, created a series of disconnected site fragments. To





c r o s s i n g

offset the bad site, Architectural Resources latched onto the idea of designing the station as a bridge. The main inspection areas and the secondary inspection garage became the anchoring abutments, while the office-support building became the bridge itself spanning over the site.

Making no mistake about which country this station lies, materials and colors refer to the American flag. Deep-blue masonry walls punched with white squares sheathe the abutments, while aluminum panels swathed in red and white bands form the bridge. The bridge's sloping roof line evokes a sense of motion. In the most literal flag inter-

pretation, the architects designed a wavy canopy over three traffic-inspection lanes to represent the flag flapping in the wind. The Honor Awards jurors, impressed with the colors and forms, said the design was "exuberant and has a spirit and vitality to it that are very welcoming." **E.K.**

Project: U.S. Border Station

Architect: Architectural Resources, Inc.

Client: General Services Administration

Location: International Falls, Minn.

Architectural Resources used an expressive red-white-blue palette to make the border-crossing station (above) stand out from its industrial site. A wavy canopy (opposite top) over the inspection lanes picks up on the flag motif. Interior spaces (opposite bottom) continue the red-white-blue theme with a ceramic-tile wall.

S i l k p u r s e



Wheeler Hall at Northland College in Ashland, Wis., has always been in transition. Originally built in 1893, the building was severely scarred when a fire in 1915 destroyed the hipped roof and portions of the interior. The college rebuilt the building with a shallower roof minus the masonry chimneys. Subsequent changes further marred the structure's original design, including the infill of openings, the addition of exterior fire escapes and the compartmentalization of the interior. By 1990, the wood floors and roof were warped and sagging, life-safety hazards threatened users, and it lacked accessibility for people with disabilities.

To upgrade the building, Hammel Green and Abrahamson in association with LHB Engineers & Architects gutted the interior, leaving only the masonry shell. The architects built a structural skeleton that included reframing the original roof form, which left space under the higher roof for additional classrooms, offices and mechanical equipment. Classrooms and faculty offices surround the central rotunda, which serves as an informal gathering and study area. New double-hung windows match the originals. Two new exit stairs and an elevator comply with life-safety and accessibility needs.

The Honor Awards jurors praised the renovation for creating "a new hybrid architecture." **E.K.**

In renovating Wheeler Hall, Hammel Green and Abrahamson and LHB gutted the interior (above) and rebuilt it. The architects cleaned the exterior (right) and reframed the high-pitched roof (opposite) as it was originally built.



Project: Wheeler Hall
Architect: Hammel Green and Abrahamson
Associate architect: LHB Engineers & Architects
Client: Northland College
Location: Ashland, Wis.



O N T H E



Saari & Forrai

F A R M

The Agricultural Operations Management Center at the University of Minnesota's Crookston campus lacked focus. Facilities were scattered about town, with some functions in outdated or deteriorating buildings, others in leased and temporary buildings. To remedy the problem, Thorbeck Architects of Minneapolis drew a master plan that consolidates the education and administrative facilities for the Agricultural Division onto a single site.

The client called for a campus with a "sense of openness, simplicity, efficiency and safety."

Drawing upon contemporary farm styles, the new subcampus includes four separate buildings for classrooms and offices, indoor arena, horse stables and beef/sheep barn. Plans call for additional buildings for hay and shaving storage, along with a machine shed and swine barn. Integral to the whole campus is a telecommunication system to serve outside educational needs and establish the Crookston campus as a national resource for livestock-management information.

The buildings pick up on the traditional farmstead motif, with the farm-

house containing the classrooms, offices and indoor arena facing the existing campus. Barns and stables are set back. Materials and forms are familiar to the rural region, yet fenestration, color and placement of buildings suit academic needs. Low, broad roof forms visually root the structures to their site. Corrugated metal, commonly used in modern farm structures, covers the roofs and exterior walls. Inside, stained plywood and tongue-and-groove construction add warmth and durability.

The Honor Awards jurors were impressed with the buildings' simplicity





and directness. "The architects made a few moves and made them right by not trying to do anything more than the program suggested," they said. "This represents a high level of design sensibility."

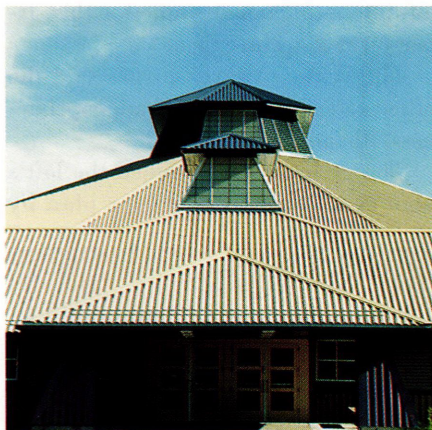
E.K.

Project: Agricultural Operations Management Center

Architect: Thorbeck Architects

Client: University of Minnesota

Location: Crookston, Minn.



Thorbeck Architects pulled architectural references from traditional farm structures in designing the Agricultural Operations Management Center (above). Facilities include an indoor arena (opposite). Roof monitors (left), typically used as exhaust systems, here serve as skylights.



Erik Rusley

small packages

Xerxes Architects didn't necessarily pull a rabbit out of a hat, but the firm did orchestrate a few tricks in designing its own offices on a bare-bones budget. Located in an old warehouse in downtown Minneapolis, the office implements inexpensive "off-the-shelf" materials to effectively turn a 2nd-floor loft into a functional studio for this six-person architecture firm.

The Honor Awards jurors said the office reflects "a spirit of appropriateness, fun and imagination."

The architects maintained the loft's high ceilings and open floor plan by

slipping a "building" within the building. A central 6-foot, T-shaped wall angled at 15 degrees defines the space and helps de-emphasize the support columns marching through the loft. Burnished sheet copper facing the entrance lobby and central circulation path embellishes the wall. The conference room, enclosed with 8-foot panels, drives the space as the office's focus. A perforated-metal canopy, supported with 2-inch steel tubes and half-inch steel tie rods, hovers over the conference room, creating the room-within-a-room environment. Work stations are grouped on the outer edges of the T, and floor-to-ceiling industrial shelving accommodates storage and a library along the warehouse wall.

The jurors concluded, "The design energy went into choosing a few things and doing it well. The office is a good symbol to show clients and potential clients."

E.K.

A central copper-clad wall (opposite) defines the office within the warehouse shell. Three work stations for the principals (above) take advantage of the tall windows. The office is located on the second floor of a classic downtown-Minneapolis warehouse (right).



Erik Rusley

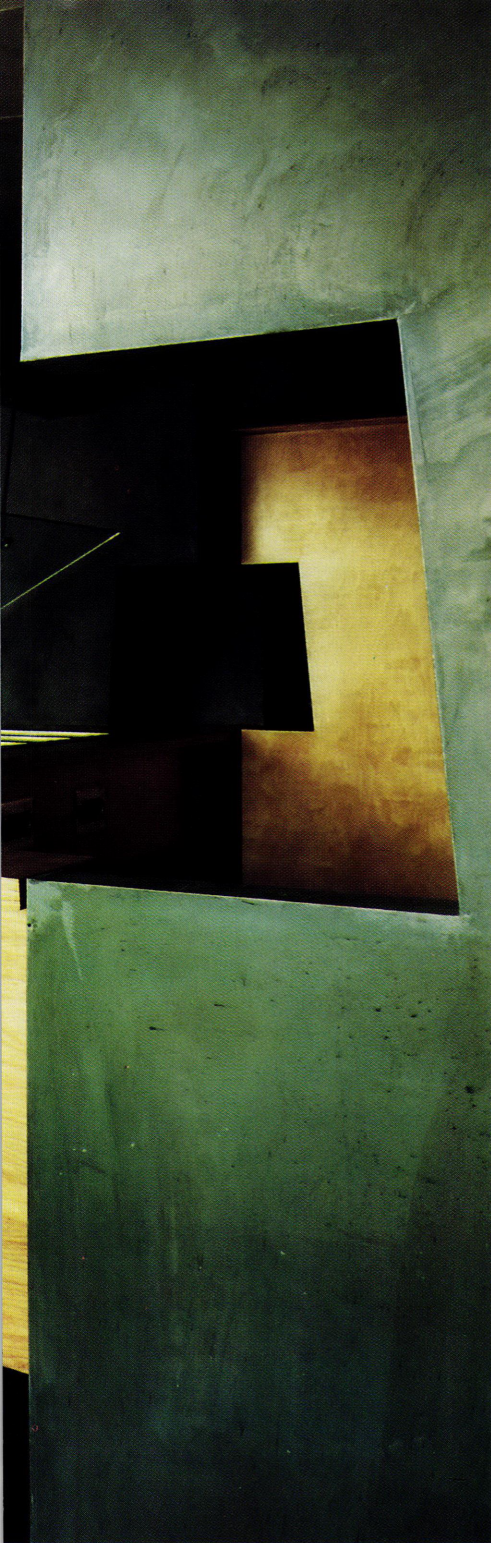
**Project: A Small
Architectural Office
Architect: Xerxes Architects
Client: Xerxes Architects
Location: Minneapolis**





This highly charged cafe uses standard-issue materials in inventive ways to suggest energy and motion.

Cafe line



M. Robert Markovich



M. Robert Markovich

The Basil Cafe employs an “imaginative and clever use of forms and materials on a low budget,” said the Honor Awards jurors in citing this California diner. The cafe is indeed simple and low budget, but the designers focused on creating visual dynamics.

LOOM designed the cafe to “depict, exaggerate and foster social interaction.” Here people are meant to observe each other, with the sounds of conversation and the sights of people coming and going an integral part of the dining experience. The primary seating is a continuous bench along one wall that overlooks a free-standing lunch counter. Tables, chairs and counters curve. The ceiling slants and a birch wall mural—fragmented, off-kilter—refracts visual perspectives. Materials are standard issue—concrete floor with incised oak strips; birch plywood for counters, benches, tables, stools and mural; and sand-blasted steel for table legs and counter.



Ralph Nelson

The jurors noted that with a slight budget the architects created a striking cafe in which all the “design energy went into the articulation of the different parts.”

E.K.

Project: Basil Cafe
Architect: LOOM
Client: Tawatchai and Ruchanee Prasikiew
Location: Arcadia, Calif.



Campus Icon

Sexton Commons enriches St. John's University

By Robert Gerloff

Two structures dominate the skyline of St. John's University outside Collegeville, Minn.

The taller of the two is the famous Banner Bell Tower of the abbey church. This soaring, sculpturally abstract tower was designed by the internationally renowned architect Marcel Breuer in the late 1950s, and its board-formed concrete construction—simultaneously raw, bold and powerful—embodies both the spiritual and artistic values of the Benedictine Order, which runs this small liberal-arts college.

The shorter of the two is the newly finished Sexton Commons. This crisply detailed social center was designed by the St. Paul firm of Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects, and its welcoming tower and earthbound materials—warm orange brick walls and a steeply pitched copper-clad roof—embody the Benedictine Order's focus on hospitality. According to architect Craig Rafferty, "One of the rules of St. Benedict says that you should never turn anyone away."

Sexton Commons serves as St. John's new front door and parlor, welcoming all who would enter and looking, in the words of the monk Frank Kacmarcik, "like a mother hen gathering her chicks around her."

If the building's form looks simple, its program is dauntingly complex. The architects had to squeeze and massage, crowbar and compress all the services of a small town under one sheltering roof. Sexton Commons contains a post office and a radio station, a bookstore and a video-rental store, a barber shop/hair salon, a bar and dance club, a restaurant for faculty and a cafe for students, as well as conference rooms and administrative offices in addition to all the assorted kitchens, storage rooms and restrooms necessary in a building of this size.

Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson could easily have made a fetish of the building's complexity, but the firm chose to design a quiet, understated structure that, while

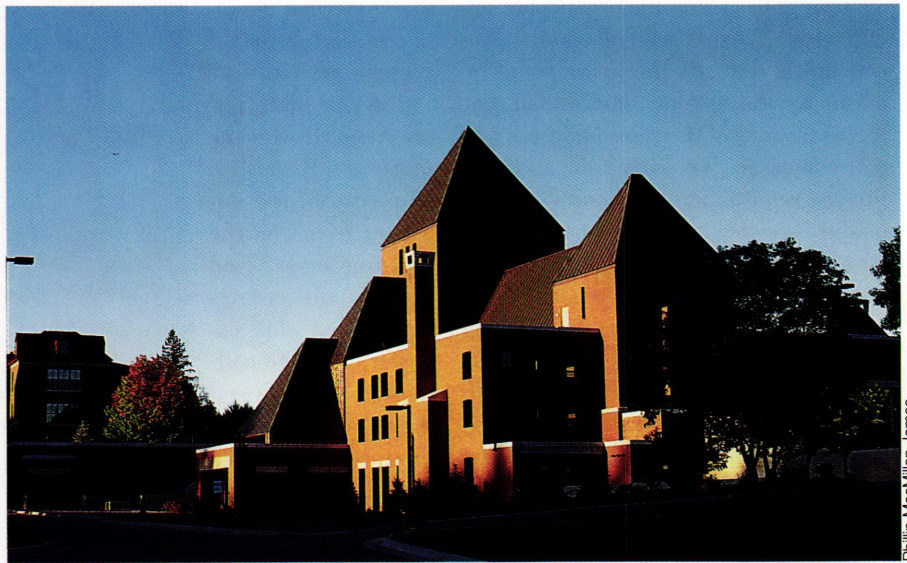
spanking new, feels as though it's always been there. From afar Sexton Commons resembles an ancient monument that grows from the landscape as inevitably as the surrounding oak forest. From nearby, it's so tightly woven into the campus fabric that it begs the question how St. John's functioned before it was built. From up close, it's developing the comfortable patina, the worn thresholds and smooth railings that distinguish a heavily used and much-loved cog in the daily routine of campus life.

The architects made Sexton Commons look simple, but then Michael Jordan made dunking the basketball look simple, too. It isn't. The "inevitable" quality of Sexton Commons, the feeling that it couldn't be any other way, underplays the design's sophistication. Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects designed a building that not only pulls the campus together, that not only juggles a complex

of rare qualities in architecture: gravitas.

This all-male college of 1,643 students is attached to St. John's Abbey, a functioning monastery. The Benedictine Order, founded by St. Benedict at Monte Cassino in 529, is known for the warmth of its hospitality and the depth of its devotion to the arts. St. John's physical plant reflects this twin focus: half its buildings are older, vaguely Italianate orange brick structures dating back to the 1880s, and half are the Brutalist board-formed concrete structures dating from the mid-1950s to mid-1970s, products of the building boom shaped by Breuer.

St. John's has long recognized the need for a campus social center, and Breuer's earliest master plan located that function on the current site of Sexton Commons. The flat-roofed concrete center Breuer designed and took through working drawings was never built. Hugh Newell Jacobsen reinforced the wisdom



program and functions well internally, that not only issues a warm and inviting invitation to students, faculty, parents and alumni alike, but does all this with sufficient mass and moxie to hold its own against Breuer's brutalist masterpieces.

Sexton Commons achieves that rarest

Sexton Commons (above and opposite), with its peaked roof forms and formidable brick-and-concrete construction, forms a stately presence on the St. John's campus in Collegeville, Minn.

Philip MacMillan James



of Breuer's siting in the master plan he executed with Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson in the mid-1980s. "There are two main allees on campus," explains Tollefson. "This building sits at the intersection of these two main pedestrian paths. Symbolically the tower locates that intersection. We studied other sites, but always came back to this location."

Once retired Minnesota insurance executive and St. John's alumnus William Sexton donated a leadership gift for the center's construction, it was a natural decision for the University to hire Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects. The firm has worked with St. John's for more than a decade, designing 80-some projects, ranging from minor remodelings to the new Virgil Michel Dormitory.

"This site is on the cusp between the old orange brick and the new Breuer architecture," explains Tollefson. "The concept is that it's the living room or parlor for the students, and we felt that the vernacular of the older buildings was more domestic. We wanted the architecture to read as having some domestic quality. We didn't want it to be mistaken for a library or science building."

Sexton Commons, as intended, neatly straddles St. John's twin building traditions. Cool, austere precast lintels and parapet copings contrast the warm, orange brick walls. But what distinguishes the building is its raw mass, its bulky gravity, its phenomenal weight-in-the-world.

Its gravitas.

"Most of the masonry buildings built today are veneers and most openings are expressed with steel lintels," explains Tollefson. "Our idea was to explore masonry construction in terms of the Benedictine tradition. The exterior walls of Sexton Commons are 4 feet, 8 inches thick."

Rafferty Tollefson Architects also mixed two stylistic traditions in Sexton Commons. The building's massing recalls Richardsonian Romanesque, particularly Henry Hobson Richardson's masterpiece, the Trinity Church in Boston (1873-'77). The building's detailing, however, recalls the timeless, monumental modernism of Louis Kahn. Mixing styles can cause dissonance, but Sexton Commons is strengthened by the mix: the historical form looks fresh and original, rendered with modernist detailing while the modernist detailing gains historical resonance.

Interior materials are handled with the same care. Burnished concrete block replaces brick as the building mass. Red quarry tile covers most floors, while exposed concrete ceilings are tempered with the warmth of furniture-grade oak panels.

Gravitas infuses interior spaces as well. The most powerful room in the building is the small fireplace lounge. A massive open fireplace, large enough to walk into, dominates this small room. Soft light, warmed and diffused by reflecting off the orange brick walls, gently illuminates the space. The ceiling hovers

Openings for doors and windows are deeply incised into the thick brick walls, casting deep, mysterious shadows as though carved out of the building's mass with a chisel.

Rafferty Tollef-

around the edges, creating comfortable, cavelike sitting areas. Sitting in a chair in this room—a chair crafted by monks from trees grown on this land—the world seems at peace.

This is architecture meant to last the ages. As Tollefson explains, "The Benedictine's point of view is hundreds of years rather than dozens of years."

Robert Gerloff is an architect with Mulfinger, Susanka & Mahady Architects in Minneapolis.

Project: Sexton Commons

Architect: Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects

Client: St. John's University

Location: Collegeville, Minn.



The multiuse facility contains everything from a post office and radio station to bookstore, hair salon, bar and dance club, faculty dining room and student cafe (above). In the great tradition of Breuer, Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson used concrete expressively as a primary building material (opposite). A fireplace (top) warms a lounge.



The Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) began its 20-year experiment five years ago. With a budget of \$20 million per year until 2010, the long-range planning effort was established to create strong neighborhoods that would ultimately create a strong community.

As program director Bob Miller puts it, "It's about change, about getting back in touch with each other."

And changes there have been. Miller accepted the director's position after the death of Earl Craig, NRP's original director. Miller's experience in county planning taught him the value of building partnerships in order to accomplish goals, even when funding is scarce. He sees NRP's role as a facilitator for "building community by building partnerships."

The most significant change in the NRP process is the elimination of the lottery system originally used to select neighborhoods. The lottery received criticism from both neighborhood residents and local pundits. Recognizing that there was no viable way to correct the lottery bias, NRP leaders opened the process to all of the city's neighborhoods. Today, 79 out of 81 neighborhoods are actively participating in the program.

As NRP enters its fifth year, there has been much discussion of its merits. The new Center for Neighborhoods, affiliated with the University

of Minnesota Design Center for the American Urban Landscape, issued its first "State of the Neighborhoods" report in early January criticizing NRP for being unresponsive to neighborhood initiatives. The city lacks a comprehensive economic development strategy, according to the report, and there is no clear public-policy framework to provide leadership in neighborhood development.

A Rutgers University team of urban planners came to similar conclusions in its recently released evaluation of NRP. The Rutgers team studied NRP for three years, evaluating its process as well as the impact of its program on the neighborhoods. The report is critical of Minneapolis's political leaders and of the bureaucracy that neighborhoods must endure in order to work with city agencies. The lack of staff support from other city agencies not only creates frustration in the neighborhoods, but also reflects the ambivalence of city leaders about the NRP, according to the report. Without the active support of the city's political leaders, there will be no change in the reluctant cooperation offered by city agencies.

However, the Rutgers team also found that Minneapolis neighborhoods display an exceptional capacity to work cooperatively with each other. Neighborhood organizations are learning to set priorities effectively and participation among residents is at an all-time high. Equally important, the Rutgers team reported that NRP funding was

URBAN FRONTIER

Five years out of the starting gate, the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program has shaped itself through successes and failures

By Janet Whitmore

distributed appropriately, with the neediest areas receiving the most funding.

The academicians' comments are echoed in the neighborhoods, but at a much lower decibel. In spite of frustration with the process, most neighborhood organizations see NRP as a tool to help them start improving their environments. So far, the results are impressive.

In the Stevens Square neighborhood just south of downtown, Bart Putney, executive director of the neighborhood association, and Joni Herren, a board member, see the NRP as "populism in action." According to Herren, NRP process has "helped people to come to the table, to create a neighborhood identity." Herren believes that "local groups are in a much better position to understand what's needed," but she also recognizes that neighborhoods have to work with city agencies to accomplish their goals. As she puts it, the NRP has "given us an opportunity to be 'they,' too."

Putney talks enthusiastically about "making connections between neighborhoods, sharing ideas about inter-related issues." The activity on Nicollet Avenue is proof of his commitment. Although the Stevens Square neighborhood contains only three blocks of Nicollet Avenue, it is a primary commercial district within the area. Putney has been working with the Whittier neighborhood to redevelop the street, capitalizing on the diversity of restaurants and arts activity already

there. On May 13, they are hosting a "Taste of Nicollet" festival to celebrate the street as an 'avenue of gastronomy' (the label belongs to *Star Tribune* food critic Jeremy Iggers).

On a more serious note, Putney also is working with neighborhood organizations in Loring Park, Elliot Park and Phillips to address crime and safety issues. These neighborhoods have formed a coalition that will allow them to collectively seek funding for crime and safety programs, detox programs and zoning changes. The current focus is community policing.

In Elliot Park, neighborhood-association executive director Loren Niemi faces a severely depressed neighborhood with a 40 percent turn-over rate. His neighborhood is just beginning the NRP process. The cost of revitalizing this area is significantly higher than elsewhere in the city, and it is difficult to encourage residents to participate in community meetings. "People will stay involved if they have a sense of ownership, if they can make a difference," Niemi observes. "Many people don't have enough of a stake in this community."

Niemi isn't overly optimistic about NRP's effectiveness in Elliot Park, but he does believe that "even if it does nothing more than coalesce neighborhoods, it's valuable."

NRP director Miller would probably agree. He proudly points out that in one month (May 1994),

Continued on page 56



Don F. Wong

NRP money went into fixing up this house by Powderhorn Park.

St. Anthony Park

This St. Paul enclave brings small-town charm to the urban environment

By Camille LeFevre

In 1983, long after stampeding cattle had been replaced by speeding cars as a traffic hazard, residents of the St. Paul neighborhood of St. Anthony Park lobbied for and won their first stoplight. For local folks, the traffic signal is famous for another reason, also, writes David Lanegran in his book, *St. Anthony Park: Portrait of a Community*. It received an unusual dedication, causing then-Mayor George Latimer to call out, “Where else would a stoplight be turned on with a quote from Kierkegaard?”

With its small-town atmosphere, hodge-podge of historical and modern houses, rolling terrain, turn-of-the-century style streetlights, public parks, lack of pretension and surfeit of pride, St. Anthony Park seems different from other neighborhoods in the Twin Cities, even at first glance. But the presence of Luther Northwestern Seminary and the University of Minnesota agricultural campus—and the stability provided by the faculty families—has long contributed to St. Anthony Park’s reputation as a “college town in a city,” says Lanegran, professor of urban geography at Macalester College in St. Paul. “It’s an examined neighborhood,” he adds. “The residents are always striving toward perfection in terms of creating the perfect community.”

Criteria for perfection, of course, vary among neighborhoods. Unpaved alleys, few curbs, whole front yards returned to prairie and community meetings to decide who gets to build what where, may be at once too unruly and too restrictive for many homeowners (though there are manicured lawns, too). But such things—along with caring about elderly neighbors, one’s own garden and public plantings, school lunches and Meals on Wheels, the presence of graffiti, new commercial ventures and stoplights—are part of the overall interest St. Anthony Park residents take in their neighborhood.

“What makes a good neighborhood is the people who live there and have a sense of shared ownership about the place, which is definitely true of St. Anthony Park,” Lanegran says. “It’s been a very self-conscious community from the beginning, not self-satisfied but self-conscious, with definite boundaries.”

Bounded by urban infrastructure (Larpenteur Avenue just south of I-35 to the north; the U of M and state fairgrounds to the east; I-94 and University Avenue to the south; Highway 280 to the west), the neighborhood is also bisected by the railroad and Energy Park Drive into St. Anthony Park North and South.



Don F. Wong

St. Anthony Park has a wide mix of housing, institutional and commercial buildings. The Bavarian-style Milton Square (above) forms the “downtown” commercial district. Homeowners (opposite) take pride in nurturing their gardens.



"The ownership is a learned thing," Lanegran continues. "When people move into the neighborhood, they literally buy into it. Even though these days a good St. Anthony Park house sells in the blink of an eye." Still, Lanegran says, this attitude is "a good thing. Because everybody strives to succeed in St. Anthony Park." In doing so, generations of residents have created a small-town, inner-city neighborhood that readily provides cues urban and suburban planners alike would do well to consider for other communities striving to become viable, enjoyable and sustainable.

Attention to Topography

In 1850, the federal government offered up the wilderness that is now St. Anthony Park for private ownership. The landscape was bucolic—a mantle of sandy, gravelly soil shaped into rolling hills, meadows and lakes by glacial activity and covered with wildflowers, woodlands, grasses and oak-savanna prairie. While the area's soil composition and topography made it unsuitable for farming, a group of land speculators—led by Governor William R. Marshall and Nathaniel P. Langford (Marshall's brother-in-law and a developer of Yellowstone National Park)—snapped it up for suburban development. Not only was the area beautiful, it was near the town of St. Anthony and on the railroad connecting the growing cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Landscape architecture was a new field and Marshall retained Horace W.S. Cleveland (a colleague of Frederick Law Olmsted, the era's foremost American landscape architect) to design a community for "wealthy families ensconced in suburban villas tastefully sited on lots ranging from five to 25 acres," Lanegran writes in his book. Cleveland's plan epitomized a new kind of suburb popular among the wealthy, but it also created "lots which maximized the scenic potential of the area," Lanegran continues. A "devotee of natural-type gardening," Cleveland used the landscape's natural contours to site houses on large, irregularly shaped lots that "preserved the flavor of the natural landscape.... Most lots had a combination of high land, slopes and lowlands or marshes....and drives that were carefully designed but naturalistic in appearance."

Unlike his plans for Como Park, Summit Avenue, the Minneapolis park system and the Mississippi River boulevards, Lanegran writes, Cleveland's plan for St. Anthony Park was never implemented due to the "financial panic of 1873." But his influence was long lasting. As the area became more industrialized, the St. Anthony Park Company bought the land and owner Charles Pratt envisioned a working-class community with lots and blocks "laid out in accordance with the topography of the ground, due regard being had to the natural beauties of the situation."

Through the years, as roads were graded, houses built and industry established, the land-





scape sustained its share of change in the name of progress. All the lakes, for instance, were filled in: Rocky Lake, once at the center of Langford Park; Surreate Lake, now the site of the U of M's married-student housing; and College Park near the U of M. Still, Cleveland's influence is evident today in curved streets that hug the hills, houses sited atop large sloping lots, spacious parks with pines, catalpa, oak and cedar, and open spaces at street junctions blooming with perennials.

An Eclectic, Main Street Feel

St. Anthony Park is also home to a cornucopia of architectural styles. The University Grove area boasts homes of U of M faculty and staff designed since the mid-1950s by contemporary architects. But a walk down any other street might reveal houses in the styles of Queen Anne, Prairie School, Tudor, Bungalow, Gothic Revival or Colonial Revival, interspersed with apartment buildings and "leisure-suit" de Stijl (as one resident puts it), or mass-produced cracker-box or suburban rambler-type houses. Many yards have magnificent gardens (a large number of the city's master gardeners live here), while alleys meander past compost piles, woodlots, rickety outbuildings and well-kept garages.

Pedestrians in St. Anthony Park North easily can stroll to Como Avenue's commercial area as well, which has a Main Street feel. Here are the St. Anthony Park Post Office and St. Anthony Park Branch Library (one of the last Carnegie Libraries); hardware, grocery, drug, book and gift stores; doctor, chiropractic, attorney and dentist offices; a gas station, hair salon, grill and ice-cream parlor; banks and churches; and the Bavarian-style Milton Square housing Muffuletta in the Park restaurant and other shops. Benches, bicycle racks, wheelchair ramps and posts for tying dog leashes accommodate shoppers.

Students and single working adults, families of various income levels and senior citizens all live and work in St. Anthony Park, which was also home to three Minnesota governors in its early years. The St. Anthony Park Community Council and the St. Anthony Park Association galvanize residents into action when the expansion of industry and highways, the loss or deterioration of residential property, loss of churches and families to the suburbs, and other problems beset the neighborhood. Members also help organize the annual Fourth of July celebration in Langford Park, assign plots in the community garden and solicit citizen participation on other community activities.

Today, low-income households in most city neighborhoods continue to increase while property taxes continue to rise, often in support of suburban infrastructure. In those suburbs, residents drive from home to work to shopping mall to home again through former farmlands developed into nondescript terrain inhospitable to pedestrian and community interaction. Meanwhile, in St. Anthony Park the number of low-income households is holding steady, housing is in high demand, rental turnover is low, commercial investment is lucrative and some families are in their third generation as residents.

"The first University faculty who came from small towns to teach at the agricultural campus were not vain, social-climbing people," Lanegran says, explaining St. Anthony Park's stability and allure. "What they had in mind was a community that had shared values of support and humaneness and education and security and good property values. Their status came from their work in the community and their work in science. And they lived in a good place. Other people look to their neighborhood as giving them their status. When people hear of other people moving into St. Anthony Park, they recognize they've bought into a certain kind of place that isn't Dellwood, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka. I don't think you get status by moving to St. Anthony Park. You get respect."

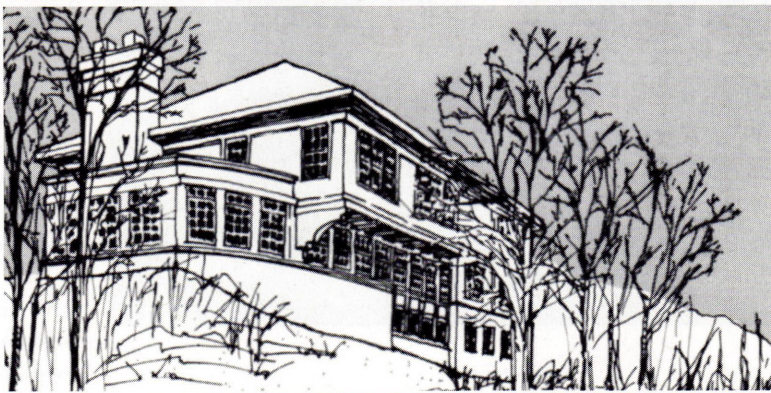
Camille LeFevre is a contributing editor of Architecture Minnesota. Information for this article was drawn from St. Anthony Park: Portrait of a Community, by David A. Lanegran, published by St. Anthony Park Community Council and St. Anthony Park Association; and Community Study: St. Anthony Park, by Frederick R. Steinhäuser, published by the St. Anthony Park Association. AM



Houses (opposite) often have large yard, while parks (top) offer plenty of open space. The St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota (above) is the neighborhood's academic focus.

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Coming Soon and in place announcements are placed by the firms listed. For rate information call AM at 612/338-6763

up close

Continued from page 17

list of downtown buildings and spaces she admired, including the IDS Center, the Hennepin County Government Center, the Gaviidae complexes, Norwest Center, the restored Rand and Foshay towers, Fifth Street Towers, St. Thomas University's downtown building, the Convention Center, Orchestra Hall, Peavey Plaza, the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden and the Metrodome.

"I just adore the Metrodome," she says with a smile. "I think it looks puffy and darling like a great big plum-pudding cake."

Outside of downtown, she's a fan of Calhoun Square and the whole "renaissance at Hennepin and Lake," the restoration and redevelopment of Nicollet Island, the Lake Harriet band shell and pavilion, and the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum and Ted Mann Concert Hall on the University of Minnesota campus.

During her tenure she developed a lot of strong opinions, and wasn't afraid to use her column as a springboard to bal-lyhoo her favorite causes *celebres* or attack her urban *bête noires*. "The new

Nicollet Mall is really a tragedy," she says. "Lawrence Halprin's original mall was the prototype, it really set the style for so many things in cities all over the country. Had we saved the Metropolitan Building it would have added luster to the general scheme of things. And I wonder what our city would be like if 1954 hadn't happened, the year that the streetcars were dumped."

She's particularly critical about development near the Mississippi River. "River West, that enormous apartment building that now looms between the Milwaukee Road Depot and the river, is an absolute abomination," she charges. "Here's the perfect example of why we need design review. I hope the new Federal Reserve isn't going to blight the river front in a similar fashion."

Current worries include finding new uses for Gunnar Birkert's soon-to-be-abandoned Federal Reserve Bank Building and the long-abandoned Milwaukee Road Depot and train shed, and the reconstruction of 35W, which she opposes without an integral light-rail component.

Ever the civic watchdog, she remains, even in retirement, the city's leading cheerleader, touting the projects she

championed for so many years. "The return of the Stone Arch Bridge is a major, major success, as is the defeat of the LSGI proposal for South Nicollet Mall," she says. "The other thing that's really heartening is that we saved those theaters on Hennepin. The street is really coming back with gusto. And they even fixed up the old salmon loaf otherwise known as City Center; it has more razzle dazzle."

But the feistiness remains. "We just have to get Target Center on the skyway system," she says. "It's a good arena, although I don't think it's particularly pretty; and if you get something built on Block E, like a new central library, you won't see it so much."

If she could have three wishes for the future of the Twin Cities, what would they be?

"Light rail, a revitalization of this city's great park system and," she adds with a laugh, "a carousel. I would love to see a Minnesota carousel, one done with all the animals of Minnesota, carved by Minnesota artists, which would include the loon, the walleye, the gopher, the wolf, the bear, the raccoon. Now that would be just perfect."

Rick Nelson is a writer and editor living in Minneapolis. **AM**

AM has published an annual directory of landscape architectural firms for the past six years as a means of informing the public and other design professionals of this rich resource of design talent and judgment.

Firms listed in this directory are those which are either owned and operated by members of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects or are registered landscape architects practicing within AIA Minnesota firms.

Should you wish further information about the profession of landscape architecture, call the Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects at 612/339-0797.

Peter Rand, FAIA
Publisher

LEGEND

AIA	American Institute of Architects
AICP	American Institute of Certified Planners
ASLA	American Society of Landscape Architects
FASLA	Fellow, American Society of Landscape Architects
PE	Professional Engineer
RA	Registered Architect
RLA	Registered Landscape Architect
RLS	Registered Land Surveyor

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES, INC.

704 East Howard Street
Hibbing, MN 55746
Tel: 218/263-6868
Fax: 218/722-6803
Other Offices: Duluth & Bemidji, MN
Established 1972

Earl Thedens	LA
Richard Rose	LA
Douglas Hildenbrand	AIA
Lyle Peters	AIA
Mark Wirtanen	AIA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	2
Architects	10
Other Professional/Technical Engineers	15
Administrative	4
Total	35

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	5
Site planning & development studies	25
Parks & open spaces	20
Urban design & streetscapes	25
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Waterfront planning	15

Bemidji Tourist Information Center, Bemidji, MN; Eveleth Industrial Park Expansion, Eveleth, MN; Battle Point Project, Leech Lake, MN; Hibbing Streetscape, Hibbing, MN; U.S. Border Station Site Planning, International Falls, MN

ARMSTRONG TORSETH SKOLD AND RYDEEN, INC.

4901 Olson Memorial Highway
Minneapolis, MN 55422
Tel: 612/545-3731
Fax: 612/525-5613
Established 1944

Paul W. Erickson	AIA
Robert J. Gunderson	ASLA
Todd R. Wichman	ASLA
Lance W. Anderson	ASLA
Patrick J. Sarver	ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	4
Architect	30
Other Professional	12
Technical	42
Administrative	8
Total	96

	Work %
Site planning & development studies	40
Parks & open spaces	10
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	20
Master/comprehensive planning	20
Irrigation design	10

Stillwater Senior High School, Stillwater, MN; Champlin Park Senior High School, Brooklyn Park, MN; Maple Grove Senior High School, Maple Grove, MN; Andover Elementary School, Andover, MN; Kingston Park Master Plan, Cottage Grove, MN

ARTEKA CORPORATION

15195 Martin Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
Tel: 612/934-2000
Fax: 612/934-2247
Established 1970

Stewart K. Hanson	
Todd Irvine	ASLA
Alan G. Hipps	ASLA
Michael Sawyer	ASLA
John Siberell	LA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	4
Other Professional	2
Technical	1
Administrative	2
Total	9

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	50
Urban design & streetscapes	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Multi-family housing/PUDS	20
Office park/commercial	10

Viomed, Eden Prairie, MN; Damark International, Brooklyn Park, MN; Brandenburg Residence, Medina, MN; Mason Homes Parade Home, Eden Prairie, MN; Keith Waters Parade Home, Bloomington, MN

BAILEY CORPORATION

5800 Baker Road, Ste. 110
Minnetonka, MN 55345-5903
Tel: 612/933-4300
Fax: 612/933-8663
Established 1967

Jerry L. Bailey	ASLA
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Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	1
Other Professional/Technical	1
Administrative	1
Total	3

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	20
Site planning & development studies	25
Parks & open spaces	10
Master/comprehensive planning	25
Commercial site/landscape design-build	20

Waterstone Residential PUD, Indianapolis, IN; The Inn at Westport, Sioux Falls, SD; Goodwin Residence, Deephaven, MN; Sabal Palms, Intergenerational Care Center, Largo, FL; Westwinds Senior Residence, Minnetonka, MN; SkyRidge Business Park, Minnetonka, MN;

DEAN BAILEY ASSOCIATES, INC.

15281 Creekside Court
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
Tel: 612/937-1124
Established 1992

J. Dean Bailey	ASLA
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Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	1
Administrative	1
Total	2

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	90
Site planning & development studies	5
Multi-family housing/PUDS	5

Bruce Bren Parade Home, Minnetonka, MN; Ahlberg Residence, Golden Valley, MN; Grand Metropolitan, Minneapolis, MN; Kosieradzki Residence, Minnetonka, MN; Luther Residence, Edina, MN

BARTON-ASCHMAN ASSOCIATES, INC.

111 Third Avenue S., Ste. 350
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/332-0421
Fax: 612/332-6180
Established 1954
Other Offices: Nationwide

Barry Warner ASLA, AICP
David Warzala PE
Frederick Dock PE, AICP
Wm. Scott Midness ASLA
Craig Churchward ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	5
Other Professional	2
Technical	3
Other	3
Planning/Environmental	3
Traffic Engineering	3
Transportation Planning	3
Civil Engineering	5
Administrative	1
Total	28

Work %

Site planning & development studies	10
Environmental studies (EIS)	10
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Multi-family housing/PUDS	5
Corridor studies	10
Traffic studies	10
Transportation plans	10
Highway design	15

Nicollet Avenue Redevelopment Plan, Minneapolis, MN; Brooklyn Boulevard Streetscape and Urban Design Plan, Brooklyn Park, MN; Wayzata High School Master Plan, Plymouth, MN; Hennepin County Public Works Facility, Hennepin County, MN; University of St. Thomas Campus Planning and Grotto Design, St. Paul, MN

BRW, INC.

Thresher Square
700 3rd Street S.
Minneapolis, MN 55415
Tel: 612/370-0700
Fax: 612/370-1378
Established 1956
Other Offices: Seattle and Portland, OR; San Diego, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Denver, CO; Milwaukee, WI; Orlando, FL

Jack Lynch ASLA
Miles Lindberg ASLA
Robert Kost ASLA
Thomas Harrington ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	28
Other Professional/Technical	258
Administrative	57
Total	343

Work %

Site planning & development studies	20
Environmental studies (EIS)	10
Parks & open spaces	15
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	15
Multi-family housing/PUDS	10

Uplands Condominiums at Parkers Lake, Plymouth, MN; Tanner's Lake Park, Oakdale, MN; Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Tower, MN; Super Valu Corporate Headquarters Master Plan, Eden Prairie, MN; Visitor Access Study, Yosemite National Park, CA

CLOSE GRANT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

610 Northwestern Building
275 E. Fourth Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 612/222-5754
Fax: 612/222-1017
Established 1977

Bob Close ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	3
Administrative	.5
Total	3.5

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	10
Site planning & development studies	10
Parks & open spaces	25
Urban design & streetscapes	25
Master/comprehensive planning	25
Commercial	5

University of Minnesota Master Plan, Twin Cities Campuses; Hennepin-Dunwoody Improvement Project, Minneapolis, MN; Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis, MN; Cambridge Community College Master Plan and Phase 1 Development, Cambridge, MN; Maple Grove Reforestation Project, Maple Grove, MN

COEN + STUMPF + ASSOCIATES, INC.

128 North Third Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/341-8070
Fax: 612/339-5327
Established 1992

Jon E. Stumpf RLA
Shan A. Coen LA
Matson Walter LA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	3
Administrative	1
Total	4

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	10
Site planning & development studies	20
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	30
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Spiritual/worship	10

The Aquarium at Lake Superior Center, Duluth, MN; St. Francis Peace Garden/Park, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Plymouth, MN; Little Earth of United Tribes, Community Renovation, Minneapolis, MN; Mack Residence, Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN

CUSTOM ROCK INTERNATIONAL

1156 Homer Street
St. Paul, MN 55116
Tel: 612/699-1345
Fax: 612/699-1830
Established 1971
Other Offices: Las Vegas, NV

Howard M. Merriam ASLA
Tony Nasvik

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	1
Other Professional	2
Technical	2
Administrative	3
Total	8

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	15
Parks & open spaces	10
Theme & specialty landscape design & consulting (simulated rockwork, water features, decorative concrete paving)	75

Spokane Transit Authority, Spokane, WA; Casino Addition and Indoor Climbing Wall, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux, Prior Lake, MN; SI-Hotel, Spa Addition, Stuttgart, GERMANY; T. Lewis Residence, Wayzata, MN; Camp Snoopy, Paving Design, Mall of America, Bloomington, MN

DAHLGREN, SHARDLOW, AND UBAN, INC.

300 First Avenue N., Ste. 210
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/339-3300
Fax: 612/337-5601
Established 1976

C. John Uban ASLA
John W. Shardlow AICP
Geoff Martin ASLA
Wallace L. Case ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	8
Other Professional	3
Planners and GIS Specialists	6
Administrative	2
Total	19

Work %

Site planning & development studies	20
Environmental studies (EIS)	10
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	15
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	5
Master/comprehensive planning	20
Multi-family housing/PUDS	15
Expert testimony	5

Robbinsdale Downtown Master Plan and Streetscape, Robbinsdale, MN; Bismarck CBD Urban Design and Redevelopment Plan, Bismarck, ND; Excelsior Boulevard Streetscape Master Plan, St. Louis Park, MN; Two Rivers Historical Park, Anoka, MN; City of Plymouth GIS Data Base, Plymouth, MN

DOVOLIS JOHNSON & RUGGIERI, INC.

1121 E. Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Tel: 612/871-6009
Fax: 612/871-1746

Dean Dovolis AIA
Brian Johnson AIA
John V. Ruggieri ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	4
Architects	19
Administrative	2
Total	25

Work %

Site planning & development studies	30
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Multi-family housing/PUDS	20

Lac Courte Oreilles Master Plan, Hayward, WI; Mt. Airy Family Housing Modernization, St. Paul, MN; Clearwater Estates & Golf Course, Clearwater, MN; Mt. Airy Community Center, St. Paul, MN; Bryn Mawr Park Playgrounds, Minneapolis, MN; Plymouth Avenue Townhouses Redevelopment, Minneapolis, MN

ELLERBE BECKET, INC.

800 LaSalle Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Tel: 612/376-2000
Fax: 612/376-2271
Established 1909
Other Offices: Washington, D.C.; New York, NY; Kansas City, MO; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; Tokyo, JAPAN

Bryan D. Carlson ASLA
Richard Varda AIA, ASLA
Krisan Osterby-Benson RLA
David Loehr AIA, AICP
Randal Manthey RLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	8
Architects	227
Other Professional/Technical	395
Administrative	140
Total	770

Work %

Site planning & development studies	60
Parks & open spaces	5
Urban design & streetscapes	15
Master/comprehensive planning	20

University of Notre Dame, Framework Plan, Notre Dame, IN; State Farm Corporate South Center, Bloomington, IL; Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN; Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN; Hotel Nikko Alivila, Yomitan Resort, Okinawa, JAPAN

ERNST ASSOCIATES

122 West 6th Street
Chaska, MN 55318
Tel: 612/448-4094
Fax: 612/448-6997
Established 1977

Gene F. Ernst ASLA
Valerie J. Rivers ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	2
Administrative	1
Total	3

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	5
Site planning & development studies	25
Parks & open spaces	15
Urban design & streetscapes	15
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	5
Master/comprehensive planning	5
Multi-family housing/PUDS	30

Conagra Corporate Campus, Omaha, NE; Chaska City Hall/Library, Chaska, MN; University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, MN; West Suburban Health Campus, Plymouth, MN; Jolly Hall Courtyard, Washington University, St. Louis, MO

DAMON FARBER ASSOCIATES

253 Third Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55415
Tel: 612/332-7522
Fax: 612/332-0936
Established 1981

Damon Farber ASLA
Joan MacLeod RLA
Clifford Swenson RLA
Dan Sjoridal RLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	5
Other Professional/Technical	1
Administrative	1
Total	7

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	5
Site planning & development studies	30
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	15
Master/comprehensive planning	15
Multi-family housing/PUDS	5

Mall of America, Bloomington, MN; Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood, MN; Canal Park Streetscape, Duluth, MN; MSP Airport Arrivals Plaza, Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN; University of Minnesota Recreational Sports Facility and Hockey Arena, Minneapolis, MN

HAMMEL GREEN AND ABRAHAMSON, INC.

1201 Harmon Place
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Tel: 612/337-4100
Fax: 612/332-9013
Established 1953
Other Offices: Rochester, MN; Milwaukee, WI

Thomas R. Oslund ASLA
Gary Fishbeck ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	7
Architects	84
Other Professional	99
Administrative	50
Total	240

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	10
Site planning & development studies	15
Parks & open spaces	5
Urban design & streetscapes	15
Interior landscape/landscapes	5
Master/comprehensive planning	50

Marine Education Center, Minnesota Zoological Gardens, Apple Valley, MN; University of Minnesota-Morris, Campus Master Plan, Morris, MN; University of Minnesota-Duluth, Campus Master Plan, Duluth, MN; Milwaukee Zoo, Master Plan, Milwaukee, WI; Earlham College, Campus Master Plan, Richmond, IN

HAUCK ASSOCIATES, INC.

3620 France Avenue S.
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
Tel: 612/920-5088
Fax: 612/920-2920
Established 1990

Robert P. Hauck ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	2
Other Professional	1
Administrative	1
Total	4

Work %

Residential/decks/gardens	80
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Neighborhood amenities & renovation	10

Edina Country Club (monumentation, signage, lighting, brick paving, planting), Edina, MN; Parkers Lake Suncourt Homes (streetscape & intimate-scaled private yards), Plymouth, MN; Ashton Residence (pond/waterfall, prairie gardens, wildlife area), Medina, MN; Hanson Residence (pond/fountains, arrival area/entrance remodeling), Hopkins, MN; Moore Residence (estate arrival area, entrances, swimming pool area, porch addition), Orono, MN

HEMMING AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

687 Woodland Drive
St. Paul, MN 55126
Tel: 612/483-6404
Established 1975

Robert Hamming ASLA, RLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline

Landscape Architects	1
Administrative	1
Total	2

Work %

Residential/Decks/gardens	20
Site planning & development studies	10
Environmental studies (EIS)	10
Parks & open spaces	20
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10

City of Annandale, MN, Urban Design and Beautification; Curry Farms Housing Centex Homes, Bloomington, MN Master and Site Planning; Ramsey County, MN, Park and Open Space Master Planning; West Publishing, St. Paul, MN, Master and Site Planning; State of Minnesota, Faribault, MN, Campus Master Planning

HOISINGTON KOEGLER GROUP INC.

7300 Metro Boulevard, #525
Minneapolis, MN 55439
Tel: 612/835-9960
Fax: 612/835-3160
Established 1982

Fred Hoisington AICP
Mark Koegler ASLA
Michael Schroeder ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 5
Urban Planners 2
Administrative 1.5
Total 8.5

Work %
Site planning & development studies 20
Parks & open spaces 20
Urban design & streetscapes 35
Master/comprehensive planning 20
Multi-family housing/PUDS 5

Brooklyn Boulevard Streetscape, Brooklyn Park, MN; H.B. Fuller Corporate Center Master Plan & Nature Preserve, Vadnais Heights, MN; Central Middle School Athletic Field Design, Eden Prairie, MN; Bush Lake Beach Park Redevelopment, Bloomington, MN; County Road 3 Corridor Study, Hopkins, MN; City Center Vision 2002 Plan, Chanhassen, MN; Downtown Redevelopment Plan, Mound, MN; Virginia Comprehensive Plan, Virginia, MN

KEENAN & SVEIVEN INC.

14411 McGinty Road West
Wayzata, MN 55391
Tel: 612/931-3122
Fax: 612/931-0063
Established 1990

Kevin J. Keenan ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 2
Technical 5
Administrative 1
Total 8

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 95
Parks & open spaces 5

Colonial Church of Edina Memorial Garden, Edina, MN; McGlynn Residence, Edina, MN; Sharma Residence, North Oaks, MN; Lundell Residence, Medina, MN; St. Paul Cultural Garden, St. Paul, MN

LANDMARK DESIGN, INC.

105 Orono Orchard Road
Long Lake, MN 55356
Tel: 612/476-6765
Fax: 612/475-8984
Established 1979

Greg Kellenberger ASLA
Dana Kellenberger

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 2
Technical 1
Administrative .5
Total 3.5

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 20
Parks & open spaces 5
Multi-family housing/PUDS 5
Residential developments: site planning & landscape design 70

Bearpath Golf and Country Club, Eden Prairie, MN; Residential Developments: Ashcroft, Minnetonka, MN; Wildridge, Mahtomedi, MN; Woodlands, Eagan, MN; Private Residences: Scouler Residence, Chanhassen, MN; Lowe Residence, Orono, MN; Hauck Residence, North Oaks, MN

LHB ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS

21 West Superior Street, Ste. 500
Duluth, MN 55802
Tel: 218/727-8446
Fax: 218/727-8456
Established 1965
Other Offices: Minneapolis, MN

Harvey Harvala PE
Richard Carter AIA
Steven McNeill AIA
Mark Anderson RLA
Tom Ritzer ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 2
Architects 14
Other Professional 12
Technical 12
Planning & Development 1
Administrative 12
Total 53

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 10
Site planning & development studies 25
Environmental studies (EIS) 5
Parks & open spaces 20
Urban design & streetscapes 10
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.) 10
Master/comprehensive planning 10
Multi-family housing/PUDS 10

Catlin Avenue Streetscape & Plazas, University of Wisconsin, Superior, WI; Highway Beautification Project, Cloquet, MN; Old Downtown Study, Duluth, MN; Dayton's Bluff Residential Development, St. Paul, MN; American Lung Association Health House '94, Minneapolis, MN

LSA DESIGN, INC.

126 North Third Street
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Tel: 612/339-8729
Fax: 612/339-7433
Established 1989

James Lasher ASLA
Harold Skjelbostad ASLA
Kyle Williams AIA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 4
Architect 1
Technical 1
Administrative 2
Total 8

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 5
Site planning and development studies 10
Parks & open space 10
Urban design & streetscapes 5
Recreation areas 5
Master/comprehensive planning 15
Transit facilities planning 50

Minnesota Valley Transit Authority, Transit Hub, Burnsville, MN; Southwest Metro Transit Commission, Transit Hub, Eden Prairie, Roseville High School Site Planning and Design, Roseville, MN; Metronic Facilities Master Plan, Fridley, MN; Folwell Park, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minneapolis, MN

MARTIN & PITZ ASSOCIATES, INC.

1409 Willow Street, Ste. 110
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Tel: 612/871-0568
Fax: 612/871-6520
Established 1983

Roger Martin FASLA
Marjorie Pitz ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 2
Technical 1
Total 3

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 5
Site planning & development studies 25
Parks & open spaces 20
Urban design & streetscapes 25
Master/comprehensive planning 25

Hennepin Avenue Strategic Plan, Minneapolis, MN; Upper Iowa University, Fayette, IA; Sensory Garden, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum; Nicollet Island Park and Adjacent Riverfront Planning, Minneapolis, MN; Festival Park, Ironworld, USA

MELCHERT/BLOCK ASSOC., INC.

367 E. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 612/228-9564
Fax: 612/223-5857
Other Offices: Hudson, WI
Tel: 715/386-7736
Established 1984

Ronald Melchert ASLA
Jack M. Walkky PE

Firm Personnel by Discipline
Landscape Architects 2
Other Professional 5
Technical 2
Administrative 1
Total 10

Work %
Residential/decks/gardens 5
Site planning & development studies 50
Urban design & streetscapes 20
Master/comprehensive planning 10
Multi-family housing/PUDS 5

Minnesota Zoological Garden, Central Plaza Renovation, Apple Valley, MN; Janesville Rest Stop, Janesville, WI; Early Childhood and Family Development Center, Minneapolis, MN; Silver Bowl Community, Las Vegas, NV; Emergency Vehicle Operators Course, Wisconsin State Trooper Academy, Fort McCoy, WI

RLK ASSOCIATES, LTD.

922 Mainstreet
Hopkins, MN 55343
Tel: 612/933-0972
Fax: 612/933-1153
Established 1991

John E.R. Dietrich	ASLA
Richard L. Koppy	PE
Alan Kretzman	ASLA, AICP
Julie Farnham	AICP
Kevin VonRiedel	RLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	8
Architect	1
Other Professional	10.5
Technical	10.5
Administrative	5
Total	35

	Work %
Site planning & development studies	35
Environmental studies (EIS & EAW)	5
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	5
Master/comprehensive planning	5
Multi-family housing/PUDS	20

Roseville Civic Center, Roseville, MN; Cleveland Park, Minneapolis, MN (MPRB); Hopkins Mainstreet Streetscape, Hopkins, MN; Stillwater Marketplace, Stillwater, MN; Hartford Place Mixed use Development, Eden Prairie, MN

SANDERS WACKER WEHRMAN BERGLY, INC.

365 East Kellogg Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: 612/221-0401
Fax: 612/297-6817
Established 1979

William D. Sanders	ASLA
Larry Wacker	ASLA
John Bergly	

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	6
Other Professional	2
Administrative	1.5
Total	9.5

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	5
Site planning & development studies	10
Environmental studies (EIS)	5
Parks & open spaces	20
Urban design & streetscapes	20
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Multi-family housing/PUDS	10
Cemetery planning	10

Minnehaha Park, Minneapolis, MN; Capitol Area Architectural & Planning Board, St. Paul, MN; Cloquet Downtown Streetscape, Cloquet, MN; Cloquet Downtown Streetscape, Cloquet, MN; St. Paul High School, St. Paul, MN; Sandstone Comprehensive Plan, Sandstone, MN

STEFAN / LARSON ASSOCIATES

807 North Fourth Street
Stillwater, MN 55082
Tel: 612/430-0056
Fax: 612/439-1179
Established 1989

Amy Stefan	RLA
Brian Larson	AIA
Tim Stefan	RA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	1
Architects	2
Other Professional	1
Total	4

	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	10
Site planning & development studies	20
Parks & open spaces	30
Urban design & streetscapes	10
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10

Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, Play Area, Trails and Screenhouse, Minneapolis, MN; Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Site Improvements, Minneapolis, MN; St. Luke's Children's Center Play Area, St. Paul, MN; HHH Metrodome Site Improvements, Minneapolis, MN; Phoenix Alternatives Site Feasibility Study and Design, White Bear Lake, MN

TOLTZ, KING, DUVALL, ANDERSON AND ASSOCIATES

1500 Piper Jaffray Plaza
444 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101-2140
Tel: 612/292-4400
Fax: 612/292-0083
Established 1910

Duane T. Prew	PE
James E. Voyer	PE
Westly J. Hendrickson	AIA, AICP
William J. Armstrong	AIA
Richard L. Gray	ASLA

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	3
Architects	11
Other Professional	61
Technical	49
Administrative	24
Total	148

	Work %
Site planning & development studies	50
Parks & open spaces	25
Urban design & streetscapes	5
Recreation areas (golf, ski, etc.)	10
Master/comprehensive planning	10
Restoration of 33 Riverside Parks/Launches, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Winona, MN to St. Louis, MO; Macalester College Sports Field and Campus Expansion, St. Paul, MN; May Township Town Hall Park, May, MN; YMCA Campus Development, Woodbury, MN; Alliant Techsystems' Corporate Entrance, Hopkins, MN	

ROBERT H. WILLIAMS, REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

3300 43rd Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55406-2253
Tel: 612/722-1491
Fax: 612/722-7659
Established 1994
Internet Address: ROBHWM@AOL.COM

Robert H. Williams	RLA
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	Work %
Residential/decks/gardens	25
Site planning & development studies	15
Parks & open spaces	30
Urban design & streetscapes	5
Master/comprehensive planning	25

The Minnehaha Park Renovation Plan, Minneapolis, MN (S.W.W.B.); The Lowell Park Renovation Plan, Stillwater, MN (S.W.W.B.); Central Neighborhood Park, Minneapolis, MN (S.W.W.B.); Morningside Nursing Homes, Sheboygan, WI (S.W.W.B.); The Phillips Residence, Kenwood, MN (S.W.W.B.)

YAGGY COLBY ASSOCIATES

717 Third Avenue SE
Rochester, MN 55904
Tel: 507/288-6464

Fax: 507/288-5058

Established 1970

Other Offices: Mason City, IA

Ronald L. Fiscus	ASLA
Christopher W. Colby	AIA
Ronald V. Yaggy	PE
Donald R. Borcharding	LS, PE

Firm Personnel by Discipline	
Landscape Architects	4
Architects	6
Other Professional	12
Technical	30
Planners, Construction Managers	3
Administrative	12
Total	67

	Work %
Site planning & development studies	25
Environmental studies (EIS)	10
Parks & open spaces	10
Urban design & streetscapes	30
Master/comprehensive planning	20
Multi-family housing/PUDS	5

Chester Woods Regional Park, Olmsted County, MN; Comprehensive Plan, Cedar Falls, IA; Comprehensive Plan, Cannon Falls, MN; U.S. Highway #63 Streetscaping, Stewartville, MN; Site/Landscaping Improvements, Apache Mall, Rochester, MN

strive to integrate a particular building or complex of buildings into a larger economic, transportation, social, and environmental context. There isn't enough ivy to cover the lamentable results. Slapped in the face by an especially bad project, the public's indifference to architects can deteriorate into outright hostility.

Serving the whole community

What is the most direct route that will lead architects from the margin into the heart of their community? There is no easy answer, but one thing is sure: we can no longer sit back and complain among ourselves that architects are not valued as an indispensable community resource. No one is going to make the case for design more persuasively than the design professions themselves.

Meeting that challenge belongs to those who have the will to renew themselves. And the first step down that road begins with a commitment to enhance the life of the community, a commitment most powerfully exercised by encouraging the client to take the largest, long-range view of a project. The value gained will be threefold, bringing rich dividends to the client, the community, and the public's appreciation of what is, after all, the most public of arts.

Design is the Message

Design is not an option—if you define “design” as the act of shaping our surroundings to accommodate our needs. Design is a strategy, an instinct, an essential tool for survival.

People are peculiar animals when it comes to shaping their surroundings—we often make a mess of it. We foul our own nests. The evidence is the ugliness that disfigures many of our cities and blights the countryside. What we see in the wreckage that confronts us on all sides is not the absence of design, but its nemesis—inappropriate or just plain *bad* design.

People can get it right...

Paris, Tuscan villages, whole neighborhoods in Stockholm, Rockefeller Center, Fallingwater, the University of Virginia, Columbus, Ind.—all are dense with positive feelings. Each is a place that splendidly accommodates human needs. Each enriches and expands what it is to be alive.

One goes to such places to re-cognize our innate creativity and the love each of us is born with for the beautiful and the good.

People and places need designers...

With only the market to guide it, design is often less a creative strategy than a blunt instrument. Instead of building on the best of yesterday while articulating a visionary agenda for tomorrow, bottom line expediency chips away at a community's assets. We settle for a quick profit, instead of demanding an investment in delight. We are driven by expediency. What then develops is the uglification of our communities.

In shaping meaningful experiences, in handling with skill the tool that is design, architects are servants of our better angels. Whether in traditional practice or in the expanding fields of industry, finance, and public service, they initiate and focus public dialogue about design options. They understand and practice the process of thinking well about problems. They foster the transformation of strangers into productive, vital and livable communities. What now develops is the beautification of our communities.

Evangelists for good design...

The challenge to architects is clear: We need to be evangelists for good design, all the while making clear that ours is not an exclusive ministry, but a shared community responsibility.

How do we make the best case for good design? By example, of course. But that's only part of the answer. The case for good design must also be made from within existing institutions. I believe, for example, that when considering loan applications, the financial community

should include architects on the review panel. Good or appropriate design is an accurate indicator of just how sound an investment really is.

The same reasoning can be extended to the community as a whole. A public that understands the process that leads to design that makes the spirit soar will be able to discriminate among conflicting options. Once the relative merits of our choices are clear, self interest alone will lead us to shape our environments more wisely, guided by a community's most creative resource—its architects.

With A Lot of Help From Our Friends

Don't believe all the claims of political candidates. In most human endeavors, the leader's role and real power are exaggerated. This is as true for those seeking public office as it is for architects.

Politicians and professionals alike, we're all carried along by larger forces. We don't determine the rise or fall of tides or which direction the wind blows. At best, by understanding these forces, we can make them work for us. With compass in hand, a knowledge of how to read navigational charts, and some skill at working the sails, we can cover vast distances and make the harbor of our choosing, instead of being broken on the rocks.

One thing else: As Congressman Dick Swett reminds us, to go anywhere, we require allies and alliances. We need friends.

True leadership empowers others

During the tenure of J. Carter Brown and Jackson Walter, the National Gallery of Art and the National Trust for Historic Preservation respectively enjoyed extraordinary growth. That's good news for architects: Brown and Walter, each in his own way, greatly expanded the audience for design excellence. In doing so, they expanded the market for architects' services.

Who are the Browns and Walters in your community? What institutions or organizations do they represent? And, most important, are you cultivating meaningful relationships with them?

Whether we are architects, preservationists or museum professionals, the challenge we face in making the world a more hospitable place is too large for any one of us alone. Architects owe it to the public they serve to strengthen their ties with those who share their visions. Only then can all of us hope to move closer to a shared goal—a world made better by design.

Multicultural Energy

It's not enough to pay lip service to the ideal of equal opportunity. It's not enough to feel good about saying the right things about cultural diversity. And it's not enough if, after the talking is done, the design professions do not mirror the diverse people we serve.

It's been about a quarter-century since the executive director of the Urban League, Whitney M. Young, Jr., stood before The American Institute of Architects' national convention and challenged architects to be a truly inclusive profession. Over two decades and several committees and task forces later, progress is being made. But the profession does not yet reflect society's cultural diversity.

A snapshot of today's profession would show some new faces. The number of minorities, however, remains far too small. Frankly, that poses a danger: All the design professions risk becoming irrelevant as a force for positive change. To put it another way, if we don't change course, we're likely to end up where we're going.

The time has come for action

Design firms can be America's conscience. Look to the recent actions of Walter Blackburn, Jack Travis, and Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates. Their goal is to reflect the rainbow that is the reality of today's America. Only then will designers be positioned to be positive agents within the construction industry and society as a whole.

Our own individual path is equally clear: An honest commitment to equal access to the profession and respect for diversity will be measured not by the sound of our prose, but by the poetry of

the action goals we have set for ourselves.

Having said this, the question becomes what action goals are we in fact setting for ourselves. Without a commitment to action—action that can be measured in the way we practice architecture—the rainbow will be an elusive goal.

Simply opening doors is not enough to truly welcome what Herman Miller chairman Max DePree imaginatively calls "God's mix." It's not enough to guarantee our visibility, not when an overview of today's architecture students shows that "God's mix" is tomorrow's profession. It's a high octane brew that can energize all of us.

What a privilege to embrace it!

Today, Advocate Something Truly Important

Architectural historian Spiro Kostof has written that architecture can be seen as "the material theater of human activity," and "its truth is in its use."

To be an architect is an awesome responsibility. However, it is a shared responsibility, since the "truth" of good architecture is the outcome of teamwork. The owner, the contractor and subcontractors, the engineer, and interior designers—all work together to construct what will be used by groups as small as families and as large as entire nations.

The oft-quoted phrase by Winston Churchill, "we shape our buildings and our buildings shape us," perhaps best describes how important the act of design is. Architecture grabs us in ways we are often not conscious of; yet behavior, mood, and human activities are enriched by the success of form and function of a structure. Human emotion resonates with the physical properties of a building to create an uplifting, energizing response that transcends the practical requirements of the occupants. Good architecture fulfills deep emotional needs; it confirms the aspirations of the human spirit.

This is what delights the public about the churches of Christopher Wren and the houses of Frank Lloyd Wright.

If design is this important to the quality of human activity, then enlisting

the services of design professionals must not be limited to large and well-funded projects. Our experiences within and outside of the smallest and most simple of structures can be greatly enhanced by the transforming power of the architect's creativity.

This transforming power is not limited to human delight. Since design is an exercise in problem solving, it follows that good design is a smart business investment. Time and again clients report that the services of a skilled design professional saved them money in the initial costs and especially in the life cycle costs of the building.

But the value the architect brings to the ultimate client, the public, is calibrated on a far larger scale. Architecture is, after all, about making places for human activity and contributing to the enhancement of that activity. Or, as John Ruskin wrote, "All architecture proposes an effect on the human mind, not merely a service to the human frame."

More than ever those who understand and have experienced firsthand the power of good architecture should actively promote its art and science. In both Eastern and Western cultures there are forces working against quality and good design. In the presence of the long shadow cast by the quick return and expediency, no member of the design team can afford to miss opportunities to speak out on behalf of good design.

Instead of suffering such darkness, each of us must light a candle of advocacy in whatever private or public forum we have access to. With each spark struck, we will be lighting the way for future generations. Our gift to them will be an environment that fosters their physical, mental, and spiritual health. Surely we could not leave our children a more liberating legacy.

James P. Cramer, former executive vice president of AIA Minnesota and former Chief Executive of The American Institute of Architects, is chairman of The Greenway Group, a management and information-consulting firm in Washington, D.C., and president/CEO of Greenway Communications International of Reston, Va. This excerpt is published with permission by The AIA, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

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more than 2,200 Minneapolis residents participated in NRP community meetings. He expects this number to continue increasing as more neighborhoods get involved. The greater the number of involved citizens, the stronger the community becomes.

South of Lake Street in the Lyndale neighborhood, executive director Harry Jensen is using architectural design as a strategy to build community. Spurred by the existence of a Purcell-designed church at 31st Street and Stevens Avenue, Jensen proposes to build on the Prairie School style that already exists in the area. Current plans call for the development of 31st Street as a "Prairie School corridor" that would be identified specifically with the Lyndale neighborhood. In particular, Jensen hopes to develop a neighborhood gateway at 31st and Pillsbury. He believes that a Prairie School design on this corner "would set a tone that would contribute directly to increasing property values in our neighborhood."

Will this strategy work? In a neighborhood where poverty and drug abuse abound, can architectural design make a difference? The Lyndale neighborhood believes it will.

This example clarifies both the strength and weakness of the NRP program. City planners are quick to point out that neighborhoods often have little perspective on the overall city-development picture. But as Bob Miller notes, NRP is an empower-

ment program. "If that's what the neighborhood wants, let's give it a shot. It's not my right to make that judgment."

He recounts a story about a lot in one of the city's southwestern neighborhoods: "I personally thought it was a low priority for that neighborhood, but after it was built, I realized that it was the gathering spot for all the young parents in the area. These were people who wouldn't have known their neighbors otherwise."

One of the most exciting and challenging NRP neighborhoods is Powderhorn Park. Located in south-central Minneapolis, this is a community with a long-standing and cohesive identity, but also some serious social problems. Powderhorn was one of the first neighborhoods to receive NRP funding, and it has results to show for it. A \$250,000 housing program provided \$2,000 and \$4,000 grants to residents for exterior improvements to their homes. Ninety-three houses were repaired and painted. The \$250,000 was used to leverage \$450,000 worth of work, not including the sweat equity.

In addition to housing improvements, the Powderhorn neighborhood addressed the problem of Lake Street between 35W and Hiawatha Avenue. Working cooperatively with adjacent neighborhoods bordering Lake Street (Phillips, Corcoran, Central), as well as the Greater Lake Street Area Council, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association began devising solutions.

The preliminary plan and vision statement targets three ma-

JOR intersections along Lake Street for specific economic development. The vision includes the recruitment of new businesses that will hire residents at a fair market wage, providing needed employment in a location that can be reached without a car. Young residents might even find after-school work that keeps them from less savory activities. Although the planning process has just begun, the coalition of Lake Street neighborhoods has already allotted NRP funding for further planning and implementation phases.

One final note about Powderhorn Park: The third facet of their strategy is to create an identity based on arts and culture. As executive director R. Scott Hawkins explains, "We're using the arts and culture to bring dialog to the community. Our goal is to build on the arts economy we already have."

Hawkins sums up the position of most neighborhood representatives when he says, "The NRP can't solve all the neighborhood problems. What it has allowed us to do is focus on the programs rather than the fundraising."

On balance, NRP serves as a catalyst for neighborhoods to begin building an effective community. It may be short on implementation assistance, and it certainly will not be able to continue funding indefinitely, but it might just be enough to get people talking to each other and working together for the common good.

Janet Whitmore is a frequent contributor to Architecture Minnesota. AM

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Principal-in-charge: Duane Thorbeck
Project architect: Dan Weatherman
Project designer: Duane Thorbeck
Project team: Duane Thorbeck, Dan Weatherman, Marc Brummel
Structural engineers: BKBM Inc.
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Contractor: All Building Corporation
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Project: Basil Cafe

Location: Arcadia, Calif.
Client: Tawatchai and Ruchanee Prasikiew
Architects: LOOM
Project team: Raveerarn Choksombatchai, Ralph Nelson
Contractor: E.C.F. Construction

Project: Opperman Hall and Law Library

Location: Des Moines, Iowa
Client: Drake University
Architects: The Leonard Parker Associates, Architects Inc.
Design principal: Leonard S. Parker, FAIA
Managing principal: Ray Greco, AIA
Project architect: B. Aaron Parker, AIA
Project team: Gary Mahaffy, FAIA, Steve Huh, AIA, David Dimond, AIA, Tracey Jacques, Ali Awad, Steve Miller, Randy Deopere
Structural engineers: Bakke, Kopp, Ballou, McFarlin, Inc.
Mechanical engineers: Erickson, Ellison & Associates, Inc.
Electrical engineers: Erickson, Ellison & Associates, Inc.
Interior design: Del Westburg Design/Classic Design, Inc.
Landscape architect: Cross Gardner
Acoustics: Kvernstoen Kehl
Contractor: Weitz Company
Library consultant: Al Coco, law professor
Photographers: Dana Wheelock Photography, Michael Ian Shopenn Photography, Farshid Assassi-Assassi Productions

Project: U.S. Border Station

Location: International Falls, Minn.
Client: General Services Administration
Architects: Architectural Resources, Inc.
Principal-in-charge: Doug Hildenbrand
Project coordinator: Earl Thedens
Project architect: Mark Wirtanen
Design team: Mark Speer, Ben Fredricks, Scott Sosalla, Kevin Piron, Robert Erickson, Richarda Wakefield
Landscape architect: Earl Thedens
Mechanical engineers: Parnell C. Satre, Greg Solberg, Dave Gillis, Otto Maki, Nate Babcock, Sandy Harnasz
Electrical engineering: Parnell C. Satre, Joe Vespa, Donna Kawamoto
Contractor: H.G. Harvey Constructors, Inc.
Photographer: Peter Kerze

Project: Sexton Commons

Location: St. John's University
Client: Order of St. Benedict
Architects: Rafferty Rafferty Tollefson Architects Inc.
Principal-in-charge: Lee Tollefson, AIA
Project manager: Tom Lillyman
Project architect: Eric Amel
Project designer: Lee Tollefson, AIA, Tom Lillyman, AIA, Frank Kacmarcik, Hon. AIA, O.S.B.
Project team: Craig Rafferty, Dick Rafferty, Mike Huber, A.W. Lindeke, Bob Rafferty, Ruth Foster
Structural engineers: Bakke Kopp Ballou McFarlin
Mechanical engineers: Gausman & Moore
Electrical engineers: Gausman & Moore
Contractor: Knutson Construction Co.
Lighting consultant: Bart Jordano
Bookstore: Richard Kremer Assoc.
Food services: Robert Rippe Assoc.
Photographer: Phillip MacMillan James

Project: A small architectural office

Location: Minneapolis
Client: Xerxes Architects, Inc.
Architects: Xerxes Architects, Inc.
Project designer: Rolf K. Haarstad, AIA
Project team: Rolf K. Haarstad, AIA, Kathleen M. Lechleiter, AIA, Gregory J. Carroll, AIA
Contractor: Reed, Ltd., Gilbertson Construction Co.
Photographers: George Heinrich, Erik Rusley

Project: Vertical Circulation Towers and Skyways

Location: Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport
Client: Metropolitan Airports Commission
Architects: Architectural Alliance
Principal-in-charge: Donald L. Hammer, AIA
Project manager: Todd Oetjens, AIA
Project designer: Herb Ketcham, FAIA, Mike Pollock
Project team: John Lackens, FAIA, Cliff Dunham, AIA, Mark Davis, AIA, Carey Brendalen, AIA, Don Geiger, Andrew Gremley, Dale Everson, Eric Peterson, AIA
Structural engineers: Dunham Associates, Inc.
Mechanical engineers: Dunham Associates, Inc.
Electrical engineers: Dunham Associates, Inc.
Contractor: Kraus Anderson (construction manager)
Interior design: Architectural Alliance
Lighting consultant: Patricia Yorks Design
Elevators/Escalators: Vertical Transportation Consultants
Photographer: Gallop Studios, Architectural Alliance

Project: Wheeler Hall Renovation

Location: Ashland, Wis.
Client: Northland College
Architects: Hammel Green and Abrahamson and LHB Engineers & Architects
Principal-in-charge: Dan Avchen, HGA
Project manager: Gary Reetz, HGA, James Brew, LHB
Project architect: Michael Fischer, LHB
Project designer: David Bercher, HGA
Project team: (HGA) Roxanne Lange, Alicia Chavier, Jim Dayton, Tadd Gloeckler; (LHB) James Brew, Michael Fischer, K.C. Lim, Micahel Lehto, Kevin Cole, Ken Green, Gayle Taylor, Jerry Putnam
Structural engineers: LHB Engineers & Architects
Mechanical engineers: Gausman and Moore
Electrical engineers: Gausman and Moore
Contractor: Wayne Nasi Construction
Interior design: HGA
Photographer: Peter Kerze

Correction

In the last issue, we neglected to credit photographer Brian Droege of Droege Photography for the image appearing on Cover IV.

AM

lost minnesota



Courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

Skyway from Golden Rule to parking ramp, 1956-1970s.

Many Minnesotans believe that two Minneapolis skyways built in 1962 to connect the Northstar Center with the old Northwestern National Bank Building and the Roanoke Building were the first elevated pedestrian walkways in the Twin Cities. But another skyway, this one much more simply designed, had spanned a major street in downtown St. Paul for the previous six years.

The area around Robert and Eighth streets (now Seventh Place) had long been one of St. Paul's busiest pedestrian stomping grounds. And for good reason—a pair of the city's biggest department stores, the Golden Rule and the Emporium, faced each other. In the mid-1950s, when the Golden Rule built a new parking ramp across the street from its building, the retailer decided to

make the walk from the ramp to the store a bit easier by proposing an enclosed elevated pedestrian bridge to connect the two structures.

The proposal to build a skyway across a city street was so unusual that the St. Paul City Council had to pass a special resolution enabling its construction. Even so, complex negotiations with officials from the city, state and labor unions almost derailed the project. In 1956, however, the bridge finally opened.

Today's skyway connoisseurs would have found the Golden Rule skyway spartan, almost crude. Designed by architect David J. Griswold, it measured only six to eight feet wide, bore standard-shaped trusses (painted green), boasted foggy fiberglass panes in its en-

closed window sections and had a plain concrete floor over its metal deck. It lacked heating and air conditioning. "It was done with extreme economy," Griswold recalls. "We took a cautious, utilitarian approach."

During the next several years, St. Paul's downtown retail scene underwent upheaval. Many of the big department stores closed, and Donaldson's, which had merged with the Golden Rule in 1961, vacated the Robert Street store in the 1970s. When the old parking ramp grew cracks and faced demolition, the skyway was also removed.

Today another parking ramp and modern skyway have replaced the old, and the Golden Rule Building is home to EduServe Technologies, Inc.

Jack El-Hai